

صباحنا من الامم

'dian

Monday April 15 1996

Algeria D 8.50	Spain GR 1.70
Austria S 1.20	Switzerland F 2.70
Belgium B 1.80	Thailand B 8.00
Canada C 1.20	Turkey TL 100.00
Denmark D 1.20	USA US 2.00
France F 1.20	Zimbabwe Z 2.00
Germany DM 3.50	
Greece G 3.50	
Hong Kong HK 2.50	
India IN 1.00	
Italy I 1.00	
Japan Y 1.00	
South Korea K 1.00	
Malaysia M 1.00	
Netherlands G 4.00	
Norway N 1.50	
Poland P 1.00	
Portugal P 1.00	
Romania R 1.00	
Saudi Arabia S 1.00	
Spain GR 1.70	
Sweden S 1.00	
Switzerland F 2.70	
Taiwan T 1.00	
Thailand B 8.00	
Turkey TL 100.00	
USA US 2.00	
Zimbabwe Z 2.00	

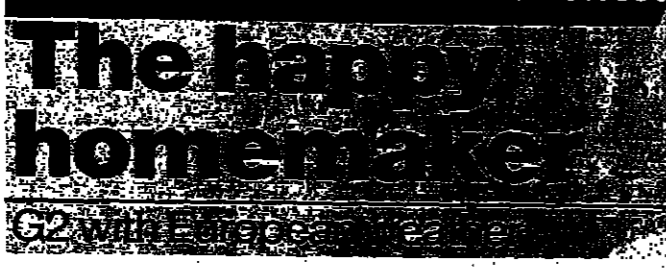
The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

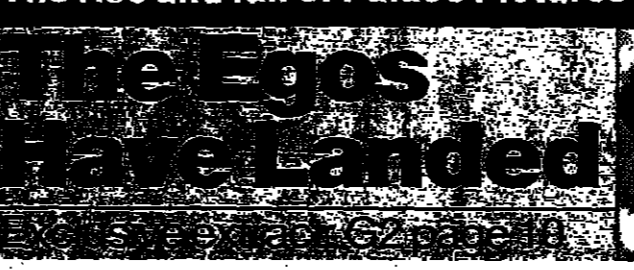
NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

48,527

Martha Stewart: America's Ms Perfect



The rise and fall of Palace Pictures



Media

The woman behind Channel 5

G2 page 8

Refugee crisis hits Lebanon as thousands flee homes

Panic as Israelis step up attacks

David Hirst in Beirut
Derek Brown in Jerusalem

TENS of thousands of refugees converged on Beirut yesterday among the 400,000 people fleeing Israel's Operation Grapes of Wrath in Lebanon.

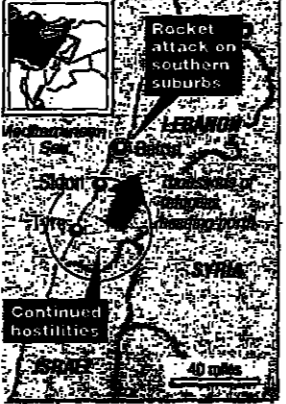
As Israeli warplanes stepped up strikes across a broad stretch of the country and the capital, the Iranian-backed Hizbullah militia in south Lebanon launched fresh salvos of Katyusha missiles and threatened to turn northern Israel into a "fiery hell".

Despite an Israeli government statement saying, "If the Hizbullah ceases its attacks, we will cease ours", military chiefs have made it clear they intend to continue the bombardment for as long as two weeks.

The Lebanese government said it would call for an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security Council. The prime minister, Rafiq Hariri, went on a tour of Arab capitals to rally support. "We are trying to explain our position to the international community," he said after seeing President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo, from where he flew to Paris to see President Jacques Chirac.

"We are trying to say what is going on in Lebanon is a vicious circle. It will not lead anywhere." But Lebanon is pinning little hope on diplomacy. One official said the attitude of the United States, which has sided with Israel in blaming the Hizbullah for the conflict, was "frightening".

Yesterday, on the fourth day of the Israeli blitz, Apache helicopters again attacked Beirut's southern suburbs. They hit shops near a building housing the Hizbullah's Majlis al-Shura, or consultative council, its highest policy-making body. Lebanese and Syrian army anti-aircraft batteries fired back. Six civilians were injured. According to the latest count, about 25 civilians have been killed and at least 120 wounded since the operation began last Thursday.



Hisbullah said the casualties do not include any of its troops, and that the Israeli attacks have failed to hit any of its positions.

Although only one woman was wounded, residents in northern Israel said the Hizbullah Katyusha attack yesterday was the heaviest such bombardment since Israel's week-long artillery and aerial blitz on Lebanon in July 1993. Hizbullah promised that it would hit the northern settlements "continuously and heavily" until Israel stopped its airstrikes.

Israeli fighter-bombers, meanwhile, broadened their onslaught with a rocket attack on a small power station at Jambour, in the hills above Beirut on the main road to the Syrian capital Damascus. The station was damaged, producing power cuts in the area.

The Israeli army said the strike was in retaliation for a Katyusha rocket attack on Saturday that caused power cuts in Kiryat Shmona, northern Israel. But for three days previously, the Israelis had blockaded the Lebanese coast, preventing cargo ships from docking at Beirut, Sidon and Tyre. They said this was to prevent Hizbullah importing weapons by sea.

In Lebanon yesterday, the market town of Nabatieh and villages in the south-east took the brunt of the air raids, which destroyed several houses belonging to Hizbullah commanders. An Israeli helicopter gun-



A Shi'ite villager carries a wounded girl to the hospital in Tyre, southern Lebanon

PHOTOGRAPH: ALI MOHAMMED

ship hit a local civil defence ambulance, injuring four paramedics. It was the second raid on an ambulance in as many days. A similar attack on Saturday killed six civilians, including four children. Planes also rocketed two transmission antennae of the Hizbullah Voice of the Oppressed Radio at Nahle and Nabl Sheet in the Syrian-con-

trolled Bekaa Valley. In the south, tens of thousands streamed from Tyre and villages in the vicinity. At least yesterday, Israel had warned them to leave their homes by 5pm, or stay at their peril. During the night and early morning they piled into vehicles and fled north to Sidon and Beirut, where they moved into schools and mosques.

The Israelis extended the deadline as people were still struggling to leave. The city was all but emptied by midday. During the day the Israelis kept extending the deadline. But the last one affected the entire population south of the Litani river, which flows into the sea a few miles north of Tyre, who had to be out by 6pm.

Most of the refugees, now said to number 400,000, are arriving in Beirut. Many have nowhere to go. At a girls' school in the Ramal el-Zarri quarter, the refugees have no mattresses or blankets. "But at least we are no longer afraid," said Youssa, a young refugee.

Tyre is ghost town, page 7

Short 'more tax' remark rocks Labour boat

Rebecca Swathers
Political Correspondent

LABOUR exploded on the politically explosive subject of tax when it was reopened yesterday by Clare Short, the party's transport spokeswoman, who appeared to be at odds with the party leadership over what is set to be one of the most important battlegrounds in the forthcoming general election.

Ms Short suggested during a TV interview that people in the same middle income bracket as her should pay more tax — in contrast to Tony Blair's keynote speech in New York last week when he said that middle-income earners such as teachers and

policemen should not be penalised. The left-wing MP, who earns a basic £34,000, has antagonised the Labour leadership before with comments on the legalisation of drugs and the Harriet Harman school row. She said on GMTV's Sunday programme: "Nobody likes paying taxes, but everyone wants to live in a fair country. I think in a fair tax system people like me would pay a bit more tax. But I don't think you can wallop people immediately."

Her remarks were seized upon by senior Conservatives, in their first chance to take the wind out of Labour's sails after his by-election victory in Staffordshire South-East last week.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, said: "Clare Short has just confirmed today, and every family in the land should know, that if there were to be a Labour government they would pay higher taxes as a result. Of course people earning £34,000 a year would pay more tax under Labour — no one should be surprised by that."

Labour officials moved swiftly to initiate a damage-limitation exercise, and Ms Short clarified her remarks, saying it would be "pure mischief" to suggest they implied tax increases for middle income.

Referendum challenge, page 3; Local elections, page 3; Leader comment, page 6

Most get their kicks from a walk out in the sticks

Vivak Chaudhary and Chris Millill

NEVER mind sex and drugs and rock 'n' roll — the best things in life are free. Despite perceptions of an increasingly hedonistic society fuelled by drink and drugs, most people would rather go for a long walk or sit at home with the children, according to Geoff Lowe, a Hull University psychologist.

Dr Lowe, a researcher into substance abuse, wanted to know how central smoking, alcohol and drugs were to people's pleasure. He analysed reports from 887 people, aged from 16 to 92, outlining his findings yesterday at the annual conference of the British Psychological Society in Brighton. For men, the most frequently mentioned pleasures are food, drink, music, family, children, reading, sport and exercise. Women find pleasure in family, children, food, drink, nature, scenery, entertainment and reading. "The respondents reported lots of simple everyday pleasures in heartfelt and honest terms... Sex, drugs and rock and roll are not the bee's knees as far as most people are concerned," Dr Lowe said.

Dr Lowe said that sex was usually tagged on almost as an afterthought. And one woman respondent said she could think of nothing which gave her pleasure.

Inside

Britain
The House of Commons has been marred by faction fighting

World News

6
The British government has been criticised for its handling of the future of the colony.

Economics

11
The poor have always been stigmatised by the right but now the left seems embarrassed by poverty too.

Sport

14
Newcastle kept their hopes alive by beating Aston Villa. They are now three points behind the leaders Manchester United.

Comment and Letters 8
Obituaries 10
G2
Crossword 15; Weather 16;
Radio 16; Television 16

Oppose the Asylum and Immigration Bill

- Defend asylum rights
- No second class citizen status for British residents

The Bill will:

- introduce a 'white list' of countries from which asylum claims will not be accepted;
- end child benefit and housing rights for most asylum seekers;
- introduce immigration checks into every workplace;
- increase police powers to arrest and search property;
- introduce a new legal status of 'immigrant' affecting over 2 million long-term British residents.

Demonstrate Saturday 20th April

Assemble: 11am Embankment (Temple tube)
Rally: 1.30pm Hyde Park

Organised by the CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ASYLUM AND IMMIGRATION BILL • Supported by the TUC



Appeal for financial support

I/we enclose a contribution of £..... towards the Campaign

Name _____
Address _____

Return to: CAAB, 28 Commercial St, London E1. Cheques payable to: CAAB



Fun on fringe strikes fear into Jockey Club

Sharp practice is in no danger of immediate disappearance on the flapping tracks of mid-Wales where overt dishonesty means it's fair cheating all round

Monday sketch



Matthew Engel

THE course commentator was rather chatty. "Sharp Practice is finished," he said at one point. "We will not see it again at a race meeting in mid-Wales."

He was, I think, referring to a horse called Sharp Practice. Sharp practice itself has always been associated with racing in mid-Wales, along with its blood relatives jiggery-pokery, funny business, and stroke-pulling, and is in no danger of disappearing. The consequences would be unthinkable.

We were standing in a damp mist at Masey-Berlan Farm outside Gilwern in Monmouthshire, surrounded by wooded hills and a gentle loop in the River. The time sheep safely graze here. But on half a dozen Saturdays a year it becomes the head-

quarters of the Heads of the Valley Racing Club.

On a sunny day it must be one of the most beautiful sporting arenas in the kingdom. But few would know that. This is unofficial racing, or "flapping", a word that strikes terror into anyone involved in official horse racing.

Last Wednesday, two Scottish owners were banned by the Jockey Club for 10 years because one of their horses had run on a flapping track. Rugby union is making peace with league; but lions will lie down with lambs before flappers are allowed into Ascot.

Yet, on the Celtic fringes at least, they refuse to go away. There is an average of two meetings a week all round Wales from now till autumn.

This was an early-season meeting, low-key and poorly-attended because most of the farmers are still lambing. Everyone said I should come back on Gold Cup Day in July. But even then it must be impossible to eradicate the air of amiable chaos. The first race, scheduled for 2pm, began at 2.31 — they were waiting for more horses; the loudspeaker worked patchily; the public wandered across the track even during races; the weight-in was on bathroom scales.

However, it had obviously been worse at Llansadog on Easter Monday. The commen-



Galloways at speed at the Heads of the Valley Racing Club's Gilwern meeting, while (right) spectator and jockey discuss form

tator told riders there was to be no repetition of that. "Handicapper's warning," he said. "He's watching you. We've got a prospect of a good race. Don't spoil it."

At Llansadog several horses were blatantly "pulled" by their jockeys to stop them doing well, reducing their handicap so the owner can strike a good bet

some other day. This goes on in all forms of racing. At flapping tracks it is just more obvious. In a curious way, the overt dishonesty makes it straighter: if everyone knows what's going on then it's fair cheating all round.

Half the races at Gilwern were trotting, that curious form of the game in which specially-bred horses pull

carts without being allowed to gallop. It has never caught on in most of Britain, though the French and Australians love it. The galloping races involve what they call Galloways or ponies — thoroughbred horses usually too runty to make the grade on a real race track, though sometimes the owners change the horses' names and enter them in offi-

cial races, which is what drives the Jockey Club crazy. The jockeys need to be brave; the courses are small with tight bends, slippery when wet. The horses have studs to help their grip and anyone tripped knows all about it. Last year Mickey Moseley — an ex-Flat jockey and now champion on this circuit — broke his neck. But he's



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JEFF MORRAN

back. His friends in official racing think he's crazy. Everyone says it was worse in the old days. Until a few years ago there were no official weights, so the riders had to be anorexic. Some of them used to ride wearing flat caps and wellies. Things have moved on a little.

"This is not a rag, tag and bobtail set-up," insisted the

club secretary Bill Clarke. "The place are involved, the audience is here, everything is as it should be. We're amateurs. We do it for the love of the sport."

That may be true of the officials but anything involving betting is not done entirely for love. One of the jockeys told me frankly that flapping was crooked. But the amounts of money involved are not large. Top prize money at Gilwern was £120 and the four bookmakers who dared set up stalls among the sheep-shit blanched if anyone flashed a large note at them. Not everyone in the crowd had a look one would trust implicitly. Yet this small crowd raised a decent collection for the sick son of one of the jockeys. "They do official racing fear flapping so much?" "I think it's a bloody-minded attitude," said Bill Clarke. "They look down their noses because this is a working man's bit of fun."

In the South-east anyone who has enough land to have a horse needs to be rich. But in Scotland and Wales, it is still just possible even for a non-farmer with an ordinary job to have a stable and a horse. So flapping thrives on. It is one of the last gestures of Celtic defiance against the English mastery and passion for rule-making.

Surrogate grandmother wants twins

The first operation of its kind in Britain gives a 51-year-old the chance to give birth to her daughter's child, as the British Medical Association changes its attitude

Vivak Chaudhary

BRTAIN'S first surrogate grandmother has described her feelings after hearing she is pregnant with her own grandchild. Doctors have told her she may even be expecting twins.

Edith Jones, aged 51, has been implanted with two embryos grown from ova from her daughter Suzanne fertilised by sperm from her son-in-law, Chris Langston. The baby, or babies, are due in December.

The operation, which has cost the family £3,500, was carried out three weeks ago at the private BMI Park Hospital in Nottingham. It was approved by the hospital's ethics committee last year.

Speaking in the Mail On Sunday, Mrs Jones, from Darlington, County Durham, said: "I couldn't believe that [the operation] had worked first time. I called Suzanne straight away to tell her. The phone went quiet and her husband Chris picked it up and told me she was in tears."

"I have to have another test on Tuesday but I've known in my heart for days that I'm having a baby."

News of the pregnancy will revive the debate over the increasing use of surrogate mothers. Last month, the British Medical Association changed its mind and said that surrogate pregnancies were acceptable as a last resort for infertile couples. The BMA had originally advised doctors to have nothing to do with surrogacy, but later said that anecdotal evi-

dence suggested that the number of such births was increasing, as society found them gradually more acceptable.

Last week, it emerged that a second couple are to have a surrogate pregnancy on the National Health Service, and that three other families are being considered for the treatment. The news followed publication of details of the first surrogacy pregnancy on the NHS, which cost Yorkshire Health Authority £5,000.

Mrs Jones's daughter, Suzanne, aged 21, cannot have children because she was born without a womb. The family decided on a surrogate pregnancy two years ago.

Suzanne said yesterday: "I'm so grateful to my mother. I wouldn't like anyone else to do this for us."

Mrs Jones said she volunteered to become a surrogate mother for her daughter because she knew what Suzanne was going through.

"I have been through it myself. My husband and I had given up hope of ever having a baby when I eventually fell pregnant with Suzanne," she said.

The family have already decided that any child will be told as early as possible how she or he was born.

Mrs Jones expects both her daughter and son-in-law to be at the birth.

"The moment the babies are born I want to hand them over to Suzanne and Chris. I just want to see their faces when they hold them for the first time," she said.

Mrs Jones, who has two other children, aged 20 and 13, and a granddaughter aged



Edith Jones with her 21-year-old daughter Suzanne, who was born without a womb

two, went through the menopause five years ago. She has been taking hormone tablets to restore her ability to carry a foetus, and for the next few weeks will continue taking the tablets and hormone injections.

Her husband Trevor, aged 49, said: "This is very much a four-way decision. Edith will

have to take it easy but she is in good hands and the doctors wouldn't allow it to go ahead if they thought it would hurt her."

Doctors were said to be delighted with the news of Mrs Jones's pregnancy but warned it was still in its early stages.

John Webster, director of

infertility services at the Park Hospital, said he was happy to treat the family.

"There are ladies who have children naturally in their late forties and early fifties. With modern obstetric care there are no great problems," he said. "This was discussed very thoroughly within our ethics committee."

Pregnancies boom as more couples seek mothers to bear children for them

Vivak Chaudhary

KIM COTTON became Britain's first surrogate mother in 1985, when she was paid £5,500 to have a baby for an American couple, leading to a huge public outcry.

Ms Cotton gave birth to a child known only as Baby Cotton, after one of her own eggs was artificially inseminated. She was also paid £15,000 by a national newspaper for her story.

Changes in the law later outlawed commercial surrogacy. In June 1991, Ms Cotton gave birth to twins on behalf of a childless friend but was not paid.

In 1997, Pat Anthony became the world's first surrogate grandmother when she gave birth to triplets in South Africa. She was implanted with eggs from her daughter Karen, which were fertilised by her son-in-law Alcino.

An unnamed couple were granted full parental rights for their surrogate child by a Manchester court in June 1995. The landmark ruling meant that the couple avoided complicated and expensive adoption procedures which had been needed until then.

Childlessness Overcome Through Surrogacy (Cots), a voluntary organisation to help couples considering surrogacy, was set up in 1988. Ms Cotton was a co-founder.

The organisation claims 180 babies have been born through surrogate pregnancies since its formation. Doctors say the true number could be much higher because many arrangements are informal.

Secrets of the underworld

First night

Andrew Clements

The Mask of Orpheus Festival Hall/Radio 3

IT IS 10 years since The Mask of Orpheus, most ambitious, elaborate and thrilling of all Harrison Birtwistle's stage works, was first performed. The staging at English National Opera in 1986 established it as one of the most important operas of our time, yet the sheer scale of the work and the resources it demands have prevented any revival.

But on Friday, to open the South Bank Centre's Birtwistle retrospective, Secret Theatre, Orpheus was seen again. It was a semi-staging to be sure, rather than the full theatrical works, but in a superb performance by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Andrew Davis, and with enough of the trappings of the dramatic scheme to convey the full flavour, it emerged again as a masterpiece.

In many ways the stripped-down presentation devised by director Stephen Langridge and designer Alison Chitty for the Festival Hall platform was more lucid and easier to follow than David Freeman's original ENO production. Freeman's treatment had a wonderful elegance and fluidity, but it played fast and loose with the intricate formalism of the opera.

The Mask of Orpheus is never a straightforward piece of story-telling. Orpheus's journey to the underworld to attempt to recover Euridice may be its central panel, but the work is much more concerned with exploring the

complex of myths surrounding the Orpheus legend: alternative readings of an event are presented simultaneously, or recalled in flashback later in the work, while each of the protagonists is portrayed by two singers, a mime and a puppet. When Orpheus sings, his solo becomes a duet, when Euridice is killed, we watch two versions of her death.

What prevents this scheme from disappearing into its own complexity and makes it cohere so thrillingly is the sheer power of Birtwistle's music — the emotional intensity and grandeur he generates, the intense lyricism he packs into the vocal lines, the cavernous, terrifying intrusions of the voice of Apollo, whose electronically-generated signals control the course of the whole work, there are the purely electronic intrusions too, when the main stage action is frozen and a mime troupe enacts myths related to the Orpheus story.

Davis, with Martyn Brabins as second conductor, ensured the gigantic scale of The Mask was powerfully projected, while the singing cast — led by Jon Garrison and Peter Brondor's Orpheus, Jean Rigby and Anne-Marie Owens' Euridice, and Marie Angel's Oracle of the Dead — were tirelessly committed. The Chalmondleys and the Featherstonhaughs, choreographed by Lea Anderson, supplied the mimes. But pulling out those names is invidious; this was a massive undertaking realised more successfully than one hoped.

The Harrison Birtwistle Retrospective, Secret Theatre, runs at the South Bank Centre until May 4 (0171 960 4242; On-Line: <http://www.illumina.co.uk/birtwistle>)

Ex-BNFL manager attacks nuclear 'car boot sale'

Simon Beavis and Paul Brown

AFORMER senior executive in the nuclear power industry has likened the Government's £2.5 billion privatisation of nuclear reactors to a car boot sale and advised investors to steer clear.

Harold Bolter, former company secretary of British Nuclear Fuels Ltd, says the Government will sell off eight reactors belonging to British

Energy for less than the cost of building just one of them — the £2.5 billion Sizewell B station in Suffolk.

"Anyone offered an eight-for-the-price-of-one bargain in a car boot sale would be looking for hidden snags and potential investors in British Energy Ltd should exercise similar caution before they buy into the nuclear power business," Mr Bolter writes in a book published today, Inside Sellfield.

He also argues that to estimate the public purse costs of closing down ageing Magnox reactors, which are not being sold off, Ministers have "plucked a rabbit out of the hat" to arrive at a cost of £2.5 billion.

The damaging disclosures come as the City is taking an extremely cautious view of the sell-off. This week the Government will select a syndicate of banks to help market the offer.

Mr Bolter resigned over allegations of financial irregularities connected with the refurbishment of his home. His protestations of innocence in the case have not been denied by the company. He also casts grave doubts on the financial viability of

vanced gas-cooled reactors and Sizewell is an "indication of how desperate it is to get as much of the nuclear industry off its hands".

In a highly disparaging dismissal of the sale, planned for July, he adds: "This is not so much a case of the Government selling off the family silver as disposing of a canteen of old and unwanted cutlery for the best price it can obtain," Mr Bolter adds.

He also argues that to estimate the public purse costs of closing down ageing Magnox reactors, which are not being sold off, Ministers have "plucked a rabbit out of the hat" to arrive at a cost of £2.5 billion.

The damaging disclosures come as the City is taking an extremely cautious view of the sell-off. This week the Government will select a syndicate of banks to help market the offer.

Mr Bolter resigned over allegations of financial irregularities connected with the refurbishment of his home. His protestations of innocence in the case have not been denied by the company. He also casts grave doubts on the financial viability of

one of BNFL's newest and most controversial assets, the £2.9 billion Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (Thorp).

He makes clear that Thorp is unlikely to be the economic success the Government claimed it would be when it overcame widespread objections and gave the all clear to run the plant. At that time Mr Bolter — who remains a strong advocate of nuclear power — was still employed in the highest echelons of BNFL.

More worryingly, he argues that ministers were persuaded the plant would be viable by a report from the accountant Touche Ross, which was based on incorrect and misleading figures.

"The economics of Thorp are extremely doubtful and the plant would never have been built if the true position had been known," he says.

He doubts that the products of reprocessing — uranium 238 and plutonium — will ever be useful now that fast breeder reactors for which they were destined have been abandoned. "They may come to be regarded as just another nuclear waste product rather than an energy resource."

"In summary, many of the assumptions fed by British Nuclear Fuels into the Whitehall appraisal of Thorp [in 1983] have turned out to be wrong, making the whole exercise something of a charade," he says.

Apart from his fears about BNFL's economic viability, Mr Bolter criticises the climate of secrecy in the industry which prevents information reaching the company's own head office as well as the outside world. Sellfield management allegedly kept from the head office directors in Cheshire many of the incidents which were later to prove severe embarrassments to the company.

"Offers of help were almost always regarded as interference — particularly when they came from people working at the company's headquarters at Risley," he writes. "Time and time again Sellfield left itself open to accusations of trying to cover up its mistakes, the most damaging accusation it can face. All too often, the charge was justified."

Inside Sellfield by Harold Bolter: Quartet Books, £9

How to become a proofreader

by Trevor Horwood

Do you envy people who love their jobs? I did too, so a few years ago I looked for a way to combine my love of books with the need to earn a living. I was a successful sales manager, so I needed something that paid well.

I discovered that every year thousands of new titles are proofread and copy-edited by freelancers working from home throughout the country. I also discovered that neither a qualification in publishing nor a publishing background was necessary to become a freelance.

Today I earn over £20,000 a year as a freelance proofreader and copy-editor, and I love every minute of it. My only problem now is deciding which assignments to accept since I am regularly offered more work than I can cope with.

Sounds simple, doesn't it? Well, it wasn't! I had to do a lot of research on the way, identifying potential sources of work... learning the language of publishing jargon... discovering through trial and error the best way to proceed... and, hardest of all, how to break into the world of freelancing.

Now you can learn from my experience (and my mistakes) in a new publication: *Freelance Proofreading and Copy-editing*. This manual provides a clear and concise overview of the

publishing industry and the freelance's role in it, together with a series of fault-finding exercises with precise answers and explanations that provide all you need to complete straightforward proofreading assignments.

A list of 101 potential clients and their addresses is also included, and my step-by-step advice will enable you to approach them with confidence and maximize your chances of success. With this manual as your guide, you too can enjoy a gratifying and rewarding freelance career in publishing. Proofreading is particularly rewarding, as is copy-editing. What's more, you will save time and money by avoiding the mistakes made by most beginners — myself included at the time.

To order your copy of *Freelance Proofreading and Copy-editing* send your name, address, book title and your payment (cheque or Visa/Access with exp. date) of £15 inclusive of postage and handling to: Carnell plc, Dept CE40, Alresford, nr. Colchester, Essex CO7 8AP or telephone their 24 hour order line on 01206 825600 (quoting ref. CE40), allowing up to 14 days for delivery. You may return the manual any time within three months for a full refund if not satisfied.

سكا من الامل

When you graduate the job in and children

سکران من الاموال

Club

heating all round

Armed loyalist gang seizes £1m in Belfast

David Starrock
Ireland Correspondent

LOYALIST paramilitaries masterminded Northern Ireland's biggest armed robbery, which netted about £1 million, police said yesterday. Members of the armed gang claimed to be from the IRA, but police last night confirmed they were loyalists.

The robbery took place in a mainly loyalist area of Belfast. Last night police were questioning a man in connection with the raid on a Securicor plant, using a van taken by one of its employees on Saturday.

Four members of a family — one of whom is mentally retarded while another, a 63 year old, suffers from respiratory problems — were handcuffed and gagged at their home while another, employed by Securicor, was told to collect cash from the firm's depot and drive it to the outskirts of the city.

Armed men then drove the money away in a red Escort van. The vehicle was later found abandoned in the mainly Protestant Finaghy area of south Belfast. It was being examined by forensic experts last night.

Police said the amount of money taken was "very substantial" but refused to say exactly how much. It is believed that it was about £1 million. It is understood the RUC is attempting to find out if there was any inside help. Securicor declined to comment.

At least six men were involved. Three who held the family hostage claimed they belonged to the IRA. But the house where the family was held is in the strongly loyalist Taughmonagh estate in south Belfast.

The money, in used bank notes, was due to be delivered to the Post Office. It was transferred to the getaway vehicle near the family's home.

At the time that the three hooded and armed men forced their way into the house in the early hours of Saturday morning, the Securicor man was there with his 33-year-old wife, his retarded brother-in-law, his 63-year-old father-in-law and a boy aged 14.

They were all handcuffed and gagged with yellow adhesive tape. The gang ignored the father-in-law's pleas that he suffered breathing difficulties, and ordered the family upstairs to lie on a bedroom floor.

Detective Sergeant Jeff Smyth said the gunmen's treatment of the family had been callous. "One of those members was a 63-year-old gentleman who despite pleas not to be taped up because of breathing difficulties still had his mouth taped over with masking tape."

"He was then laid face down on a carpet with handcuffs applied around his back," Sergeant Smyth said. The Securicor man was handed a map with instructions, told to go to his depot in the south of Belfast and drive the cash to a pre-arranged spot in Ballyleson.

He was accompanied by a colleague. They were met by another three armed men who ordered them out, took them to the depot and drove the cash to a pre-arranged spot in Ballyleson.

Both loyalist and republican paramilitaries have long held a variety of crimes, including robberies, to fund their activities and lifestyles.



Benazir Bhutto, Pakistan's prime minister, inspects the Lahore hospital after the bomb blast which killed six people and injured more than 30

PHOTOGRAPH BY KM CHOUDHURY

Imran ire at 'political' hospital attack

Gerald Bourke in Islamabad

IMHRAN KHAN, the former great cricket all-rounder, condemned as the work of "a savage or an animal" the bombing of his cancer hospital in Lahore yesterday, in which six people were killed and more than 30 injured.

The attack on the Shaikat Khanum Memorial Trust Hospital outside Lahore, capital of the Punjab province, is widely seen as an attempt to sabotage his budding political career.

The blast happened just after noon. The bomb, which was hidden under a sofa in the waiting area of the chemotherapy department, destroyed the crowded outpatients area and caused damage worth about \$270,000.

"There were bodies everywhere," said Raja Chandhry, the hospital director. "Doors were blown out and there was mangled furniture all over the place. It's a tragedy. How could anyone bomb a hospital?"

He added that Sunday morning, when new patients are registered, was the busiest time of the week.

Apart from one member of staff who was not badly hurt, all the victims were patients. The injured, eight said to be in a serious condition, were taken to other hospitals in the city.

Mr Khan's hospital, open for little more than a year, was financed with donations from the public and dedicated to his mother, who died of cancer 10 years ago. Treatment is free for most patients who cannot afford to pay.



The Princess of Wales with the Khans during a visit to the hospital in February

Princess sends her sympathy as Gemima flies out to Pakistan

THE Princess of Wales telephoned Imran Khan yesterday after the bomb attack on his Lahore cancer hospital. The princess, who visited the hospital earlier this year, expressed her sympathy for those caught in the blast which killed six.

By coincidence, she had lunch in London yesterday with the parents of Imran's wife, Gemima — Sir James and Lady Annabel Goldsmith — before the blast.

Gemima, who was flying out from London to Pakistan last night, was said to be devastated by the news. "Children there are fighting for life. For someone to bomb them is sick beyond belief."

Gemima, who converted to Islam before her marriage last summer, said: "Imran is devastated. It has taken him 10 years, this

project. The outpatients department is obliterated. It's the only outpatients department which treats poor patients free, and they have nowhere to go now."

Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani prime minister, also expressed her shock and horror at the news and flew to Lahore.

After visiting the hospital she said: "We condemn whoever has done this act of terrorism. No mercy will be shown to those engaged in violence."

The Pakistan High Commission in London added that she considered it a "horrid crime".

A High Commission spokesman said: "She has asked for a report within 24 hours and has instructed the police to investigate the matter and arrest the criminals as soon as possible. She has also asked the people to beware of the activities of terrorists."

Goldsmith challenge

Rebecca Smithers
Political Correspondent

BILLIONAIRE financier Sir James Goldsmith added to John Major's woes yesterday by pledging to press ahead with his £30 million campaign to put up 600 candidates representing his Referendum Party at the election.

Sir James was speaking for the first time since the Government announced its decision to make a manifesto commitment to hold a referendum on the issue of a single currency.

His candidates will stand in seats where the Conservative candidates oppose a referendum.

Sir James said in an interview on BBC's Breakfast with Frost, that the Government's decision was "an act of appeasement within the Cabinet to try and keep it stable".

He said the Government's proposed referendum was dependent on the Conservatives

being re-elected — "a somewhat obscure idea at this moment" — and that it only lasted for one Parliament.

He warned that the government was in danger of being taken over by Brussels — no matter if it is Tory, Labour or Liberal Democrat — by relinquishing sovereignty through the Maastricht Treaty.

The threat posed by both the Referendum and the UK Independence parties is being taken more seriously since Thursday's Staffordshire South-East by-election when the UK Independence candidate, Andrew Smith, came a close fourth to the Liberal Democrats, securing 1,272 votes (3.5 per cent).

Sir James said he would unveil his full list of candidates at the party's conference in Brighton in October. He had not decided where he would stand, but said it would be in Surrey.

Asked about Tory fears that his party could take 15 to 25 seats away from them at the general election and put

will move forward with greater determination."

Since retiring from cricket after leading his country to victory in the 1982 World Cup, Mr Khan, aged 43, has become a controversial figure. He embraced Islam and denounced Western culture and values as shallow. It was a stance at odds with his night-clubbing playboy image as a sports celebrity and provoked accusations of hypocrisy.

But his cancer hospital and a recent mass literacy programme have made him hugely popular with Pakistanis. So too has his growing

criticism of the country's ruling elite, which he condemns as corrupt and uncaring.

Such changes have inevitably put him on collision course with the increasingly unpopular government of the prime minister, Benazir Bhutto.

On Saturday, he ended months of speculation about his political ambitions when he announced he would launch his own party later this month. He also claimed

to have turned down offers of ministerial posts made by two previous governments. Local press reports say he has gathered an impressive team of retired army generals and senior civil servants, disgruntled politicians, and Islamic fundamentalists.

Most Pakistanis had little doubt last night that the hospital had become the latest victim of his political ambitions.

Daily Mail proprietor gives new hint of election backing for Blair

Alex Bellis

LORD Rothermere, proprietor of Associated Newspapers, yesterday gave his strongest hint yet that some of his titles might support Tony Blair at the next general election.

He said on BBC Radio 4's Desert Island Discs: "I think that some of my newspapers might be sympathetic to John Major."

When pressed by the programme's presenter, Sue Lawley, as to whether his newspapers — which include the Daily Mail, the Mail On Sunday and the Evening Standard, London — would back the Labour leader at the next general election, he said: "I have a suspicion that some of them might."

Yesterday's remarks came six months after Sir David English, Associated's chairman, wrote an article

in the Spectator praising Mr Blair and suggesting that his newspapers' traditional anti-Labour stance could end.

He wrote of asking Rothermere over lunch whether this — "the unthinkable" — would be possible. "Well, it certainly would not be impossible," David, he replied, having recently come from a two-hour one-to-one with the Labour leader.

In the two years Mr Blair has led his party he has managed to improve its relations with Rupert Murdoch's News International, owner of The Sun, The News Of The World, The Times and The Sunday Times.

While Mr Murdoch has not gone so far as endorsing Mr Blair, they have communicated with each other and Mr Murdoch invited the Labour leader to address senior executives of News International in Australia last year.

NEW CLINICALLY PROVEN

Bazuka that verruca

New Bazuka Gel is a unique, clinically proven treatment that is now available from your pharmacist without the need for plasters.

- Bazuka not only works to eliminate warts and verrucas, but also dries to form a unique water-resistant protective barrier designed to help inhibit the spread of the wart/verruca infection, without the need for plasters.
- Bazuka is quick and easy to use — a complete treatment kit for verrucas, warts, corns and calluses.

FORMS A WATER-RESISTANT BARRIER — NO NEED FOR PLASTERS

When you have a job that pays as little as a high school graduate and you know you're never going to replace the job in central Illinois, and you have a house, a car and children to support, you take a lot of crap.

G2 page 12



How the job has changed

Then	Now
Title: bouncer	Title: door supervisor/in-house security operative.
Chest decoration: tattoos	Chest decoration: licence badge
Self-image: untrained with opportunities to strike professionals	Self-image: trained professional with opportunities for striking
Preferred physical contact: fist to mouth decimation	Preferred physical contact: mouth to mouth resuscitation
Favourite threat: I know where you live	Favourite threat: my union lawyer knows where you live
Uniform: anything from Moss Bros	Uniform: anything from Kate Moss to the Gallagher Bros.
Likely name: Ron	Likely name: Mary
Greeting: Oi	Greeting: hello boys

'For years we have had this image of being thugs, but we are trying to move away from that'

Ray Jackson
Southport 'doorman'



Head-to-head... Bouncers (above and top left) are getting their act together — but with the formation of two rival associations they can't agree how

News in brief

'End of the world' show attracts 2.5bn

MORE THAN 2.5 billion people in more than 200 countries watched Billy Graham yesterday in the first global "televangelist" show. The one hour long programme was screened twice on the Sky satellite channel. Abroad it was shown on satellite and cable channels as well as 187 national networks including India, South Africa, Russia and Uganda.

Crown gets mercy killing file

A FILE on the "mercy killing" of Alice Rowbottom, a liver cancer sufferer, by her son is to be sent to the Crown Prosecution Service, police said yesterday. Derek Rowbottom, aged 44, from Ashton-under-Lyne, Greater Manchester, said he gave his 80-year-old mother two huge overdoses of morphine after being unable to bear watching her die slowly at North Manchester General hospital.

Incapacity scheme 'fails'

ONLY 288 people have found work after being driven off incapacity benefit by a new, tougher eligibility test introduced last year, the Department of Social Security yesterday acknowledged. At least 28,000 other former claimants are now receiving unemployment benefits.

Female jail figure rises

A TOUGHER attitude by the courts towards non-violent female offenders has been blamed for a 57 per cent rise in the number of women in prison over the last three years to a daily population of 2,125. The number of male prisoners has risen by 30 per cent over the same period.

Prize for Jeanne Moreau

THE actress Jeanne Moreau has been awarded Bafta's most prestigious prize, The Fellowship, for life achievement. Miss Moreau, aged 68, flew in from her home in Paris to receive it at the Lloyd's Bank British Academy Craft Awards ceremony at the London Hilton yesterday, to be televised on BBC2 tonight.

Panorama 'inquest' denied

SENIOR BBC executives denied yesterday they were planning further investigations into two Panorama programmes dogged by controversy. Journalists on the award-winning current affairs flagship have been accused by their managers of attempting to scoot reporter Martin Bashir, who secured November's interview with the Princess of Wales.

Anne preferred as queen

THE Princess Royal should succeed to the throne instead of the Prince of Wales, according to a Mori opinion poll. Fewer than half those questioned thought the prince would make a good king. Princess Anne came top with 33 per cent of the nearly 2,000 people questioned, leaving her brother trailing with 25 per cent.

More lottery millionaires

THREE winning tickets scooped £3.8 million each in last night's National Lottery draw, the organisers Camelot said. The winners matched all six numbers to claim £3,836,607 each. The winning numbers were 23, 38, 40, 44, 47 and 49, and the bonus number 12.

Faction fighting fear as bouncers organise

Alex Bellos gatecrashes on 'door supervisors' in dispute

AN ATTEMPT by night-bouncers to shake off their pugna-cious image has turned into farce, with the creation of their first professional association marred by faction fighting.

Instead of the industry uniting behind the long-planned National Association of Licensed Door Supervisors (Nalds), launched in Essex yesterday, a founder member is urging bouncers to join his organisation instead.

The National Association of Registered Door Supervisors (Nards) was also launched yesterday, in London, and hopes to offer its members a cheaper package of benefits.

The rivalry is spilling what bouncers hoped was the final chapter in their transformation from "gorillas in suits" to professional "security operatives".

In the last few years bouncers have cleaned up their act as councils have introduced training courses and venues have increasingly recruited women.

Gary Powers, a director of Nalds, said: "The situation is embarrassing. We only found out a few weeks ago about the other group. It's farcical."

But Mr Powers, who also runs Regency Security in Chelmsford, Essex, was quick to put the boot in to an organisation he claims is gatecrashing his party. He said it is run by Danny Brewinton, an ex-employee also involved in setting up Nalds, who "two months ago we had to let go after a difference of opinions".

Regulations regarding bouncers vary depending on the local authority, although most now have a system of licensing. In Westminster, which has one of the most progressive policies, bouncers must complete a two-day course in fire safety, law and first aid and sit a 20-question multiple-choice test. If they pass they are then vetted by the police in a two-hour interview.

One of the main aims of Nalds is to unify the national licensing system. At the moment, if a licensed Westminster bouncer wants to work in Manchester he needs to pay for another two-day course.

Nalds also wants to bring union benefits to its members, and has struck a deal with the GMB general union offering a legal helpline and health, accident and insurance benefits.

Mr Powers said: "Being a doorman is a high-risk job. If you get injured you can't work, but if they now pay a weekly subscription they will be covered by health benefits. The legal advice could also be useful."

"There is also no advisory body for the Government and councils to speak to when they are introducing policy. We aim to be a buffer between them and the security companies."

He added that he wanted to offer courses in advanced first aid, paramedics and how to be a head doorman.

Two years ago a working party was set up to look into starting a National Vocational Qualification in door supervision, although it is not thought one will be introduced for several years.

The GMB estimates there are 50,000 bouncers nationally, although for most it is a part-time job paying around £10 an hour — usually for six-hour shifts.

Mick Upton, who runs the 2,000-strong Showsec, a company which supplies bouncers, said: "We would support any initiative to get licensing. My concern is that the industry is going to be divided into two with both fighting against each other."

Journalist rejects demand to return document

Andrew Cuff
Media Correspondent

A JOURNALIST said last night he would not comply with a demand from the Department of Trade and Industry to return a leaked copy of a confidential report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Adam Raphael, of the Economist, denounced as absurd the DTI's attempts to get him to sign a gagging order preventing further reporting of the document.

The DTI has issued an ultimatum for the magazine to return by 3pm today all copies of the report in which the commission backed the proposed £2.9 billion takeover of Southern Electric by National Power and the £1.95 billion bid by Powergen for Midlands Electricity.

It also required an undertaking from Mr Raphael not to publish details, threatening a High Court injunction if he refused.

Mr Raphael, a former political editor of the Observer and BBC Newsnight presenter, said he had no intention of handing back the report. "We have learned from the Guardian's experience in the Sarah Tisdall affair," he said. The Foreign Office clerk was jailed for six months in March 1984 after the Guardian agreed to return leaked papers about the siting of cruise missiles in Britain.

He was planning to return to the topic in next week's magazine, and it was absurd to sign a gagging order when publication in the current issue had already put the report in the public domain.

Mr Raphael said publication had been a secret known only to him, the magazine's editor Bill Emmott and his department boss.

If an ex-parte injunction were granted, the Economist would almost certainly appeal, dragging the controversial report through a long legal action.

The magazine received an unexecuted copy of the commission's report, including confidential commercial and financial evidence. Mr Raphael said the Economist was prepared to agree not to use material which the DTI would have excised when it published the report — if it gave reasons why such material should remain secret.

A DTI spokesman said officials would consider their next move today in response to a letter received from the Economist.

starting a National Vocational Qualification in door supervision, although it is not thought one will be introduced for several years.

The GMB estimates there are 50,000 bouncers nationally, although for most it is a part-time job paying around £10 an hour — usually for six-hour shifts.

Mick Upton, who runs the 2,000-strong Showsec, a company which supplies bouncers, said: "We would support any initiative to get licensing. My concern is that the industry is going to be divided into two with both fighting against each other."

'Risk of return' to ignoring child sex abuse

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

THERE is a growing danger of a return to the days when victims of child sex abuse were ignored or not believed, a children's charity warns today.

Argument over definitions, failure of the law to bring abusers to book, and controversy over false memory syndrome are combining to reverse progress in understanding of sex abuse, says NCH Action for Children.

The charity, which runs 14 schemes helping child victims and adult survivors, says public awareness has grown only during the past 20 years. Previously, children were afraid to speak out for fear of disbelief.

Research by the charity on 124 adult survivors, almost all women and self-selected, found they were abused for at least five years between ages four and either 12, the onset of puberty, or 15 or 16, when many left home.

The abuser was said to have been the father, stepfather or mother's partner in 41 per cent of cases. In 6 per cent it was the mother. In only 7 per cent was the abuser unknown to the child or family. Fewer than half the victims said they had spoken out during childhood. Nine said they had spoken out as adults, having had no previous recall — the classic circumstances of alleged false memory syndrome — and three of these cases had been corroborated.

The NCH is calling for sweeping legal reforms to improve the chances of convicting abusers and to better protect child witnesses. It also wants greater investment in services helping abused children and their families to stop sex abuse becoming "yesterday's fashionable issue".

Wiggins out in the open on women-only shortlist

Michael Ellison
Arts Correspondent

MARLANNE Wiggins, who spent 15 months in hiding with her former husband, Salman Rushdie, after a death sentence was imposed on him, is one of four Americans on the shortlist for Britain's newest literary prize.

The £30,000 Orange prize for fiction, which is open to women only, was born after the late Angela Carter's final novel, *Wise Children*, failed to make the Booker shortlist in 1991.

But the first award, on May 15, comes after the Booker (£20,000) went to Pat Barker's *The Ghost Road* and the Whitbread (£25,000) was won by Kate Atkinson with *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*.

Ms Wiggins's *Eveless Eden* is about a right-hand man to the Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu who is held in a safe house with his girlfriend.

The other Americans are Pagan Kennedy (*Spinsters*), Amy Tan (*The Hundred Secret Senses*), and Anne Tyler (*Ladder of Years*). The British writers are Julia Blackburn (*The Book of Colour*) and Helen Dunmore (*A Spell of Winter*).



Marianne Wiggins... novel about Romanian benchman

warning:

This Diverse 1000 digital cordless phone is so clear that if you say you're calling from work when you're actually in the garden, it would be wise to ask the blackbirds to cut the tweeting.

To find out more about BT's most advanced cordless phone Freefone (RNO) 413 756. BT SHOPS, THE LINK, JOHN LEWIS, TANDY, TEMPO, ALLDERS

BT It's good to talk

...ies face
...ocal dis

...to the main part

DEBI

d-

A

starts

WEA

WEAR

NEW

2 wo

Lib Dems and tactical voting could hurt Government in May council elections • Huntingdon remains loyal to PM

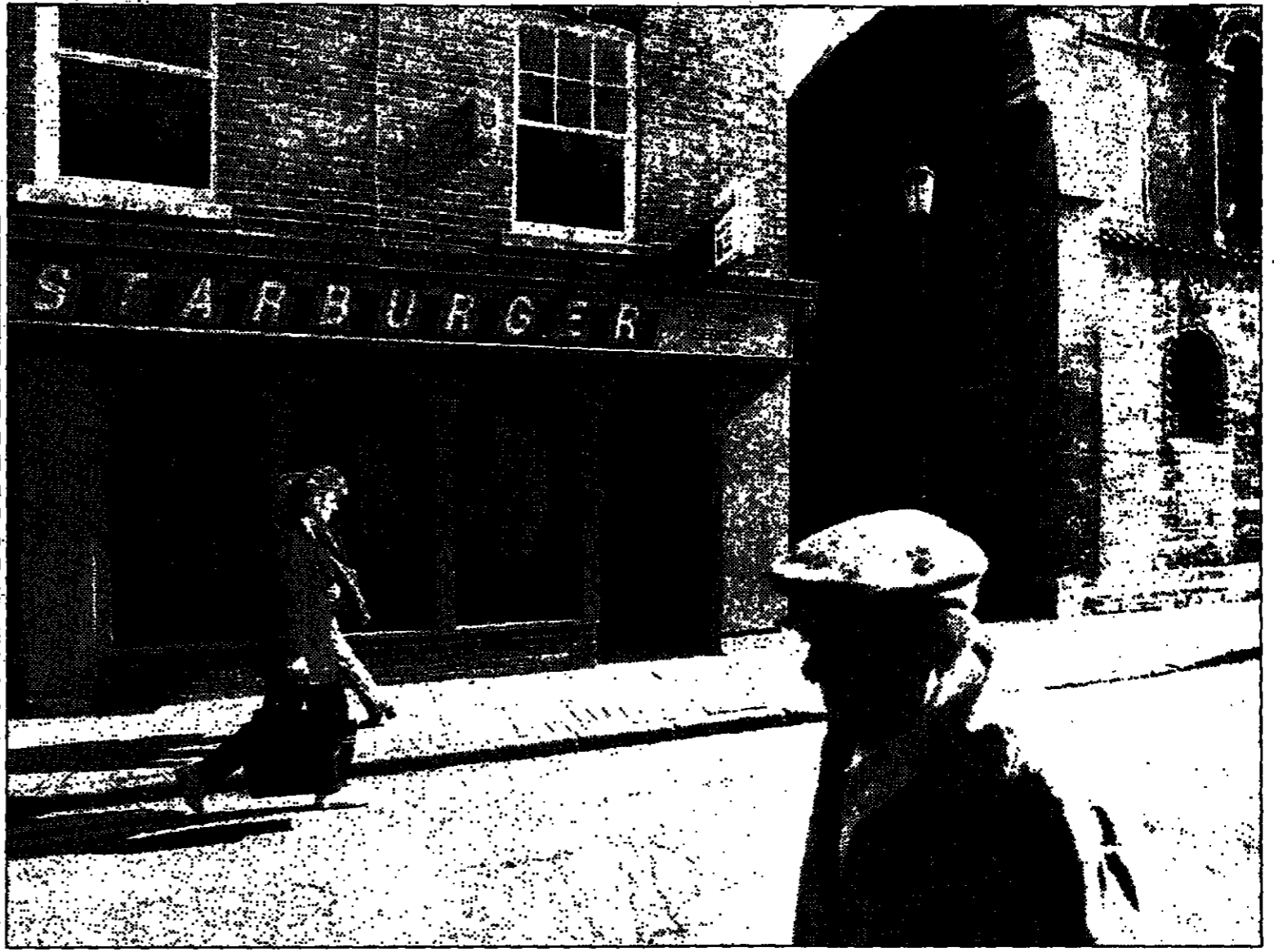
Tories face repeat of local disasters

John Curtice and Martin Linton

THE TORIES could lose between 400 and 700 seats and control of at least two of their true-blue councils in the local elections because of the strength of the Lib Dems and tactical voting.

chalk up gains among the 14 new unitary councils which are holding elections for the first time. The blue-rinse South coast towns of Bournemouth and Poole would take a swing back of only 6 per cent since last year to restore a smile to the face of the party chairman Brian Mawhinney.

most recent ICM poll puts the swing a little lower, at 11 per cent. If the Tories could repeat that performance their losses could be stemmed to as few as 400 which would enable Central Office to claim that recovery is on the way.



The market town of Huntingdon, 'Johnny boy's' constituency where burger culture cohabits in comfort with traditional England. PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID SALVORE

Where the main parties stand in poll

CONSERVATIVES Will promote record on sale of council houses, parental choice in education, competition for council services, lower council taxes, sale of council estates to housing associations, control of staff budgets, and introduction of performance-related pay.

LABOUR Will promote examples of good Labour local authorities, especially partnerships with other bodies, eg McAlpine stadium, Huddersfield (Kirkless council), Manchester Metro, Birmingham International Conference Centre. Attack loss of trust in Tories.

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS Will promote record as second party of local government, experiments in giving more grassroots powers to local voters, including postal surveys, record on protecting education in local authorities, and campaign for end to "capping" of local authority budgets.

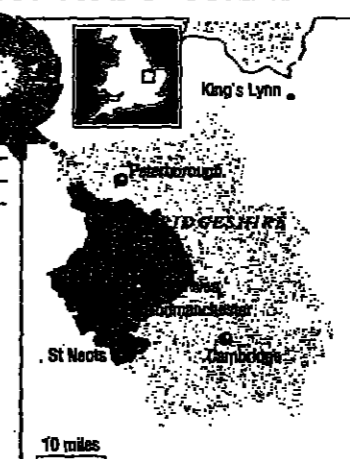
No need for Major to curry favour in true-blue Huntingdon heartland

Gary Young finds even two-legged Tories set to sweep board in PM's fiefdom

"PEOPLE here have always voted Tory and always will. That's just what they do. If you put a pig up for election and said it was a Tory it would still win," said Donald Macloed, who recently moved to Huntingdon.

Local elections Huntingdonshire district council

In control Conservative 20 seats Liberal Democrats 12 Labour 6 Independents 3 Vacancies 2



19 seats to be contested this election: 13 Cons, 3 LD, 2 Labour, 1 Ind. MPs: John Major (Huntingdon, Tory majority 96,290) and Sir Anthony Grant (SW Cambridgeshire, Tory majority 19,897).

Virtually monocultural and totally anodyne, it must be one of the few places in England where Rotarians are taken seriously and bar staff do not check £20 notes to see if they are forged

'Even if the Tories close down every hospital and ask all the nurses to work for nothing, Mr Major will still win the constituency because people like you will always vote for him'

DEBENHAMS Mid-season SALE starts tomorrow. WOMENSWEAR: UP TO 50% OFF Selected J. Taylor, UP TO 50% OFF Selected IQ co-ordinates, UP TO 50% OFF Selected Trainer shirts, UP TO 50% OFF Selected Debut, UP TO 50% OFF Selected Anne Brooks Pectis, UP TO 50% OFF Selected Casual Club, UP TO 50% OFF Selected separates, UP TO 50% OFF Selected dresses, UP TO 50% OFF Selected knitwear, UP TO 50% OFF Selected Windsmoor, Planet and DanniMac ladieswear, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Debenhams swimwear, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Nuage rainwear, UP TO ONE THIRD OFF Selected Alexon, Easton, Jacques Vert, Ego and Brides International bridal gowns. MENSWEAR: UP TO £50 OFF Selected Men's suits, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Men's underwear, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Men's IQ, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Casual Club beachwear, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Casual Club shirts, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Debenhams silk ties, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Casual Club knitted tops, UP TO ONE THIRD OFF ALL Maine casual jackets, 25% OFF Selected Men's shoes, ONE THIRD OFF selected Maine casual shirts, AT LEAST 25% OFF ALL Debenhams Shirt & Tie coordinated sets, £15 OFF ALL Debenhams pure new wool blazers, £5 OFF Selected Casual Club knitwear, £5 OFF Casual Club Chino trousers, AT LEAST £3 OFF ALL Casual Club jackets, £5 OFF ALL Men's Lewis, Wrangler, Lee, Pepe and Easy jeans, UP TO 20% OFF Selected sportswear - Nike, Adidas, Reebok, Umbro and Puma. CHILDRENSWEAR: 50% OFF ALL Baby Teddy Babywear, ONE THIRD OFF Selected LDX Girls' (8-14) dresses, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Toddler Trainer, ONE THIRD OFF Selected Trainer Boys' (3-14) shirts, 20% OFF Selected LDX Girls' (8-14) Casual jackets, 20% OFF Selected Bright Futures Boys' (3-7) sweatshirts, 20% OFF ALL LDX Boys' (8-14) Casual jackets, £2 OFF ALL Bright Futures Boys' & Girls' nightwear, SAVE £3 When you buy two pairs of Trainer (3-14) jeans. THE DIFFERENCE IS DEBENHAMS. 2 weeks only. On Tuesday 16 April all stores are open until 7pm.

But that will not be necessary. The local Tory party in Huntingdon - John Major's constituency and probably one of the few councils the Tories will retain - has found 19 two-legged candidates to contest the seats and is confident of sweeping the board.

9 per cent - three times as much as the Tory-led district council. If that were not enough, county hall also plans to cut down on street lighting in a move branded by the chairman of Cambridgeshire police authority as "a burglar's charter".

has a huge personal following. And it is quite nice here, although you probably get a lot of Labour people on the estates," she said.

'Verbal advice only' to go to ministers on unlawful acts

CIVIL servants have been told that any warnings they give to ministers and senior officials that their actions might be unlawful must in future never be put in writing.

The Government is concerned about the growing number of legal challenges to its decisions through judicial review, and the steady erosion by the courts of the convention that official advice to ministers should be protected from disclosure.

Have you got the guts to read it? 10 ways to lose fat. THE ULTIMATE FITNESS TEST. BE (MUCH) BETTER THAN THE AVERAGE MAN. Men's Health MAY ISSUE ON SALE NOW

World's largest... acts 2.5bn... mercy killing file... theme 'fails'... figure rises... Morceau... 'Inquest' denied... referred as queen... lottery millionaires... BT

Students expose Hong Kong farce

China's attempt to counter accusations of political intolerance backfired dramatically yesterday. **Andrew Higgins** reports

CHINA'S first attempt to canvass Hong Kong public opinion ahead of the 1997 handover descended into pandemonium yesterday, with the forcible eviction of invited student leaders and a Chinese mandarin fleeing by taxi from scuffles at a luxury hotel.

The closed-door encounter between Chinese officials and invited representatives of Hong Kong's 6.4 million people ended amid chants of protest outside the five-star Grand Hyatt Hotel and black smoke billowing from a tyre set alight near the lobby entrance.

"This is not consultation. This is just a show. They want to pretend they are listening to the voice of Hong Kong," said Ivy Chan, a sociology student aged 22, who was one of two members of the Hong Kong Federation of Students to be ejected from the talks.

The fracas marred a week-end seen as an important test of China's readiness to tolerate dissent over plans for the territory after the departure, at midnight on June 30 next year, of Chris Patten, the 28th and last colonial governor.

"For Chinese officials I think one lesson is that this is a free and open society," Mr Patten said yesterday on his return from London. "We tol-

erate expressions of all sorts of opinions and it is a sign of strength and self-confidence if you try to embrace all shades of opinion."

During his visit to Britain, Mr Patten met John Major to discuss the fraught relations with China over the handover, and what British officials see as a crisis of confidence in the colony.

In an attempt to counter accusations of intolerance, Chinese officials on Saturday extended a surprise last-minute invitation to student leaders to discussions organised by the Preparatory Committee, a Beijing-appointed group of mainland and Hong Kong dignitaries. The gesture back-

fired yesterday, when security guards were called to toss out the students who had begun distributing leaflets.

The two ejected students wore T-shirts with slogans attacking "bogus consultations" and China's plans to replace Hong Kong's elected legislature with a hand-picked "provisional" assembly.

We spoke peacefully but this demonstrates what they mean by consultation, said Ms Chan, showing an arm bruised by security guards. Students burned their invitation letters. Later, a radical action group set fire to a tyre in a tax chest labelled "provisional legislature".

Chen Zuo'er, a Chinese official chairing the meeting, defended the students' expulsion. "Their behaviour made more than 70 other participants shocked and dissatis-

fied. To allow the consultation session to continue normally, we had no choice but to make them leave."

Anger over the scrapping of Hong Kong's elected legislature yesterday drew about 1,000 protesters for a march from the central business district to the Happy Valley headquarters of the Xinhua News Agency, China's de facto embassy in the colony. Protesters stamped on bamboo bird cages.

"I'd rather be a small bird flying free than a canary in a cage singing only songs a

master likes to hear," said Cheung Man-kwong, chairman of the Professional Teachers' Union, a group originally invited to air its views but later barred.

Besieged by protesters and television crews as he left the hotel venue for the consulta-

"You turtle, with your head in your shell."

The official, Chen Ziyang, stirred a storm of protest last month when he told senior civil servants that they risked losing their jobs after 1997 if they did not declare their loyalty to a Beijing-appointed provisional legislature.

China argues that the current assembly cannot be allowed to continue past 1997 because it was elected under reforms introduced by Mr Patten without prior assent from Beijing.

Attended by some 300 social and business groups, the weekend consultations marked the first time that Beijing has ventured beyond a narrow constituency of loyal tycoons and hand-picked advisers, since Britain in 1984 agreed to return the colony to China.

Discussion, however, was restricted. The only item on the agenda in two days of meetings was the selection of a 400-member committee that will choose a provisional legislature.

Aside from the ejected students, the only voice opposing the disbanding of Hong Kong's elected legislature came from the Bar Association. Other critics were either left off the guest list entirely or had their invitations withdrawn.

"I clamoured to be invited. I've been calling up the secretary every day saying I want to participate," said Christine Loh, one of many elected legislators who was excluded from the exercise. "The British used to hold sham consultations as well. That was shameful. Why does China have to be shameful too?"

China's man jumped into a red taxi and sped off, as protesters chanted 'You turtle, with your head in your shell'

trict to the Happy Valley headquarters of the Xinhua News Agency, China's de facto embassy in the colony. Protesters stamped on bamboo bird cages.

tions, the deputy head of Beijing's Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office jumped into a red taxi and sped off, rather than wait for his limousine. As the vehicle departed, and uniformed bell-boys guided puzzled tourists through the mêlée, protesters chanted:

Kohl gets to work on public spending cuts

Ian Traynor in Bonn

CHANCELLOR Helmut Kohl of Germany embarked on a delicate mission last night to slash welfare spending and initiate tax reforms, partly in the hope of getting the economy in shape for a single European currency.

Back from an Easter slimming cure in the Austrian Alps and buoyed by unexpectedly strong showings in three regional polls last month, Mr Kohl summoned key government and party officials to his Bonn home to wrangle over budget cuts.

The finance minister, Theo Waigel, announced there would be no sacred cows in the drive to cut public spending by up to DM50 billion (£22 billion).

The talks, which will continue in parliament tomorrow and then resume in negotiations between Mr Kohl, employers and trade unions next week, were expected to focus on proposals to cut sick pay, unemployment benefits and reform the retirement system by gradually raising the pensionable age and possibly increasing pension contributions for the second time this year.

Mr Waigel last month ordered a cap on public spending after economic stagnation and rising unemployment led to fears of a DM20 billion revenue crisis in the public coffers.

Last year's budget deficit was 3.6 per cent of gross domestic product, much higher than the 3 per cent ceiling required next year if Ger-

many is to qualify to join the single currency. Dr Kohl ardently supports.

More broadly, the entire national system, based on high wages, high overheads and generous welfare provision agreed through consensus between government, employers and unions, is being buffeted by the winds of globalisation and faces a medium-term crisis.

"Model Germany is history," said Munich's Süddeutsche Zeitung newspaper. "The politicians know it, the unions know it, the employers' associations, the countless lobby groups know it. And the political parties know it."

But manifestos and speeches promising to halve unemployment, cut public spending from more than 50 per cent of GDP to 46 per cent, and cultivate a new generation of risk-taking entrepreneurs have so far concealed a lack of action.

The opposition Social Democrats control the upper house in Bonn, the support of which is needed for many of the proposed changes. They are threatening to block proposals to cut unemployment benefits by a quarter for people who reject "reasonable" job offers.

Union leaders are warning of possible strikes if moves to cut sick pay are pushed through.

Sick pay often exceeds actual wages, being based on recent earnings including overtime.

An agreement was expected from last night's meeting that overtime be excluded when calculating entitlement.



Nuclear deterrent... Demonstrators are sprayed by water cannons in Dannenberg, north Germany, during protests yesterday against a planned shipment of atomic waste from France on May 7

Tutu promises to find truth, despite legal warnings

David Boreford in East London

AN EMBATTLED Archbishop Desmond Tutu said yesterday he was pressing ahead with his attempts to lay bare the atrocities of the apartheid era, as provocateurs on both sides of the old political divide threatened legal action to stop him.

The latest challenge to South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, chaired by the archbishop, came on the eve of its first hearing in the port of East London today. The commission was set up to hear evidence of human rights abuses committed by all sides in the war for and against apartheid. It has powers to grant immunity from prosecution to perpetrators who confess.

The commission's deputy chairman, Dr Alex Boraine, announced that he was expecting a last-minute court action by individuals named as the alleged perpetrators of atrocities. The threat came after the accused were warned last week they were likely to feature in evidence.

This follows repeated attempts by relatives of high-profile victims of apartheid — including the murdered black consciousness leader Steve Biko — to persuade the constitutional court to halt the commission on the grounds that it will enable the guilty to escape retribution.

The commission was going to great lengths yesterday to protect the identity of the witnesses due to appear before it in the city hall, at the first of a series of sittings to be held around the country in the next two years. Archbishop Tutu and Dr Boraine were also refusing to identify those accused of atrocities, other than to say they included "household names".

Dr Boraine said the new threat of legal action came after the commission had refused to give copies of witnesses' statements to lawyers representing the accused, or to postpone the proceedings. "We believe it is their right to be heard, after being silenced for so long," Dr Boraine said of the victims.

He justified on security grounds the commission's refusal to give the accused details of evidence against

Ramaphosa gives up seat

THE African National Congress wants Cyril Ramaphosa — who helped lead the party to power — to head a challenge to white minority domination of the economy, politicians and commentators said yesterday.

Mr Ramaphosa, the ANC's secretary-general, is leaving parliament to join New Africa Investment Limited, one of the few black conglomerates listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. President Mandela said on Saturday.

"I have allowed him to go ... because of the crucial role he is likely to play to ensure the wide gap between black and white business is closed," Mr Mandela said. — Reuter.

them. Witnesses had been cautioned "to be very, very careful that they are accurate," Dr Boraine said.

Archbishop Tutu said that legislation required the commission to inform those accused, but it did not say when it had to be done. "We are being nice," he said of the few days of advance warning.

Legal clashes with the commission over "due process" have seemed almost inevitable because of the distinctly non-judicial approach taken by the commission members. Their unconventional style was on display yesterday at a church service presided over by the archbishop in the huge township of Mdantsane outside East London.

About 1,000 worshippers packed the large Assemblies of God church to pray for divine assistance for the commission. The highlight of the service came when a drum filled with burning wood was brought before the scruffy and unidentified witnesses to the commission waved their hands over the flames to "release" themselves.

The Inkatha Freedom Party leader, Chief Mangosuthu Buthe, threatened yesterday to pull out of the coalition government if President Nelson Mandela persists with attempts to postpone local government elections on May 29 in KwaZulu-Natal because of widespread political violence in the province.

Who else wants a FREE copy of this book on SELF-HYPNOSIS?

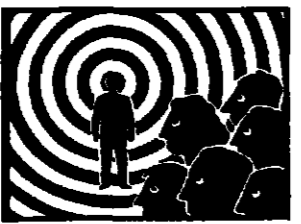
In one year, 106,537 people have already received it free of charge. It will cost you the price of a stamp and will show you:

- How you can feel strong and self-assured all the time
- How to control your emotions and your thoughts

Thousands of people now use Self-Hypnosis — who before would never have believed they were capable of it. Now, for the first time, you can learn in your home, in just 20 minutes a day, the Secret Techniques of Hypnosis and Self-Hypnosis. Having taught Hypnosis to doctors, Professor Hippertstein, a world renowned expert in his field, now reveals all his secrets to you. No need for any special gift: Explained simply, in everyday language, he teaches you how you can hypnotise yourself and control the powerful forces of your subconscious.

Here are some of the secrets revealed in his Method:

- How to release the natural reflexes of Self-Hypnosis
- How to control your emotions and dispel nervous tension
- How to use Self-Hypnosis to help you stop smoking
- How a simple idea implanted in your subconscious can enable you to sleep like a child
- How to feel younger and rediscover your energy and dynamism



- How Self-Hypnosis can help you lose weight — without drugs or medication
- How to stimulate your memory through Self-Hypnosis
- The technique for ensuring great relationships, both emotionally and physically.

It's absolutely FREE. If these results interest you, if you are aged 18 or over, cut out the coupon below and post it today. We will send you — FREE, with no obligation now or ever, "Information on the Secret Techniques of Hypnosis and Self-Hypnosis". Claim your copy today — *entirely free of charge*. Learn how to increase the concentration and unbending willpower that can open the Doors to Success for YOU.

© 1996 Carnell plc, 70 Stockton Square, London SW1V 1PL

To: Carnell plc, Dept STH14, Abresford, Colchester, Essex CO7 8AP or telephone our 24 hour order line on 01206 825600 (quoting reference STH14).

YES please send me my copy of "Information on the Secret Techniques of Hypnosis and Self-Hypnosis" — FREE, with no obligation now or ever.

Name (Mr/Ms/Ms): _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Date of Birth: / / _____

We may occasionally offer 7 days free phone advice up to 11 days. We reserve the right to refuse any order if we believe it to be a commercial order, or if we believe it to be a duplicate order.

Italy's Braveheart faces heavy losses

Across a crucial battleground in Sunday's general election, the Northern League is in trouble, **John Hooper** in Treviso reports

THE mothers are green, the fathers are blue, and their eight children are yellow. They are all 70 feet tall.

There is something distinctively Italian about the way the workers at Benetton's main production facility near Treviso see the monster robots that glide around its "automated distribution centre" (the merchandise, apparently, does not stay long enough for it to be considered a warehouse).

The "mother" carries a "child" to one of 17 rows, each 500 feet long, to fetch the boxes for a consignment which the "child" gives to its "father" for loading on to a truck.

The Veneto — the expanse of flat land behind Venice — is today Italy's second most industrialised region, carpeted with workshops, factories and showrooms. "There is one company for every 14 inhabitants," said

Vittorio Filippi, a sociologist at the University of Venice.

But the Veneto did not begin to be industrialised until the 1960s, and even now looks half agrarian. Peasant farmers-turned-factory-workers still tend patches of land next to their houses, and there is a vineyard just outside the Benetton works.

Benetton's managing director, Carlo Giarola, believes the region's success has a lot to do with the character of its people: "They are hardworking, reliable, very attached to the land, with a marked sense of duty and total commitment to their company, which they regard as their own property."

The Veneto will be the decisive battleground in Sunday's general election. Two years ago, Umberto Bossi's Northern League combined forces with Silvio Berlusconi's newborn Forza Italia (Come an Italy) movement throughout northern Italy. In return for

his support, Mr Bossi drove a meretricious bargain that secured him 119 seats in the 630-member chamber of deputies, making the Northern League the biggest party in the lower house.

But many who put their X by the name of a League candidate were really voting for the right in general, and are unlikely to support a party

which has since brought down Mr Berlusconi's conservative administration.

With Mr Bossi talking again of secession rather than federalism (he recently cast himself as Italy's Braveheart), the Northern League looks certain to suffer heavy losses outside its heartland of Lombardy, in areas like the Veneto.

The size of the defeat is crucial for it will decide whether the mercurial Mr Bossi holds the balance of power in a parliament otherwise forecast to be evenly balanced between left and right.

The man charged with holding Braveheart's flank in Benetton-land is a local businessman, Luciano Donner. Significantly perhaps, the sitting MP has been moved to a safe constituency.

Mr Donner emphasises that there is a widespread feeling in the Veneto that it has been neglected by Rome. But he is having a hard time explaining his leader's recent allusions to secession — which Mr Donner insists means "true federalism".

There is another factor, however: the League is a protest movement.

In a country where sartorial elegance counts for so much, one of the ways that Mr Bossi's followers mark themselves out is by dressing eccentrically. Mr Donner sports a psychedelic tie with a tartan waistcoat.

This rebellious streak has made Northern League MPs reluctant to lobby for favours in Rome in the manner expected of Italian legislators. Last December, the Veneto business association took the unusual step of issuing a statement saying it had "expected a lot more" from the province's MPs.

Even so, there is enough anti-Rome feeling for Domenico Basso, a reporter for the local paper, Tribuna di Treviso, to predict that the Northern League's retreat will stop well short of a rout.

In 1994, members of the League were elected to four of the six seats in the chamber of deputies, and two of the three senate seats.

"This time, they should take three seats in the lower house and one — possibly two — in the upper house," he said.

The League may be down, but it is not yet out.

Britain would not be left out, ministers hint

John Palmer in Verona

BITAIN'S European Union partners have indicated they will not exclude Britain from a single European currency in 1999, even if it stays out of a revamped European exchange rate mechanism (ERM).

A strict reading of the Maastricht treaty implies Britain must be an ERM member for two years before taking part in monetary union.

Britain left the ERM in 1992. But the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, who supports membership of a single currency, said after EU finance ministers met at the weekend: "It would be quite absurd to exclude a country which satisfied convergence criteria and exchange rate stability on the basis that it hadn't had a formal two years membership on an ERM."

He added that ministers had indicated that the two-year rule will not be invoked where a country has proved it has run a stable currency exchange rate.



Umberto Bossi: Polls could give him balance of power

صوتك من الامم

The old and obse...

... is gh...

... resident...

... Israeli ven...

... water-broken

... the day of two d...

... men sitting in a stu...

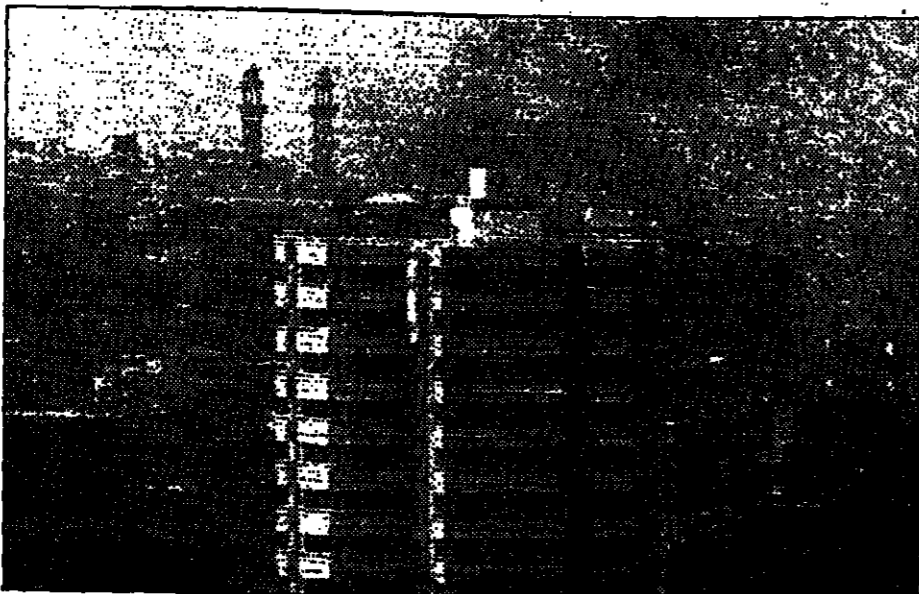
... discussing an agem...

... which is a computer...

... only in Annie's Bar...

... should have gone.

Only the old and obstinate remain in the south after warnings • United Nations says raids are becoming random



Air raid... Smoke billows from Beirut's Ghobeiri district yesterday after Israeli fighters hit suspected Hizbullah positions in the Lebanese capital



Road to despair... Residents flee the Lebanese port of Tyre yesterday after the Israeli army said it would bombard the city

'We're all Hizbullah here. The Israelis are terrorists and the Arab governments are below the ground. At least our boys are defending our land'

Tyre is ghost town as residents flee Israeli vengeance

David Hirst in Tyre

THROUGHOUT the night they piled into any available vehicles, taking little but the clothes they stood in, the occasional mattress and kitchen utensils. They took buses by siege, the men fighting for places for their wives and children. Within a few hours all but a handful of the 120,000 citizens of Tyre had left, and some 35,000 others, already refugees from other parts of south Lebanon, had fled for the second time in three days. By noon yesterday, the old port city was a virtual ghost town.

about 11am, one hour before the new deadline. Then they extended it twice again, first to 3pm, then to 6pm. But this last warning was even broader in scope. It no longer listed specific localities where the Israelis would attack. Now it was simple and all-embracing. Everyone who remained south of the Litani river, which flows into the sea a few miles north of Tyre, would do so at the risk of death.

where most of the southerners fetch up. The rest of the south is now almost as empty as Tyre. No more than 10-15 per cent of the inhabitants have remained in any village, according to a UN spokesman. They are mainly the old and the obstinate. And, of course, the Hizbullah fighters — though most of those are in the hills around. There are certainly no Hizbullah members in sight here. They have closed their local offices, and taken to what they call their "mobile" ones instead. But they are present in the hearts of the people. "I can tell you, they have lots of Katyusha rockets," said a young man proudly. "I wish I was with them." He paused and added, as if he thought had just occurred to him: "I think I would be safer too. I don't think they have lost a single martyr."

The UN put up a tent for them in its logistics compound. The refugees had come in over the past two days from surrounding villages, and in the previous few hours some had come in from the city itself, from homes a mere stone's throw away. Others had taken refuge in mosques and churches. A few had stayed put in their homes. Occasionally groups of them gathered in doorways or in half-shattered shops and cafes. The night before all of the citizens of this ancient port had gone to sleep in their own beds. It was at one in the morning that the Israelis issued Communiqué Number 9 of their "Operation Grapes of Wrath". It warned the people of Tyre, along with the inhabitants of some 28 nearby villages, to be out of the area by 8am yesterday — or risk losing their lives. There was not enough time to meet the first deadline. The Israelis extended it and the exodus reached its climax

THE army has confiscated the cellular phones of Israeli soldiers serving in Lebanon because of fears that military secrets were being given away, a military source said. "A soldier could let something slip about the operation by mistake while talking to his mother," the source said. Calls on cell phones, which use radio transmissions, can be intercepted more easily than other calls. Soldiers are allowed to carry private cell phones but not to use them on duty. Soldiers serving in south Lebanon have reportedly used them to have pizza delivered to the Israeli border. — AP

Six people, including four children, died in an ambulance that was attacked near Tyre on Saturday. As far as the spokesman knew, the ambulance belonged to the private charity of a rich banker and it was doing precisely what the Israelis claimed they wanted: getting the people out of their villages to spare them the wrath to come. Apart from that, he said, the Israelis were "hitting stones". To be sure, most of their artillery was directed at areas from which the Katyusha rockets had been fired into northern Israel. But it was, he thought, pretty futile — and there were no such things as Katyusha bases. "What would be the point? These are things they carry in the back of taxis?"

Some war victims more equal than others

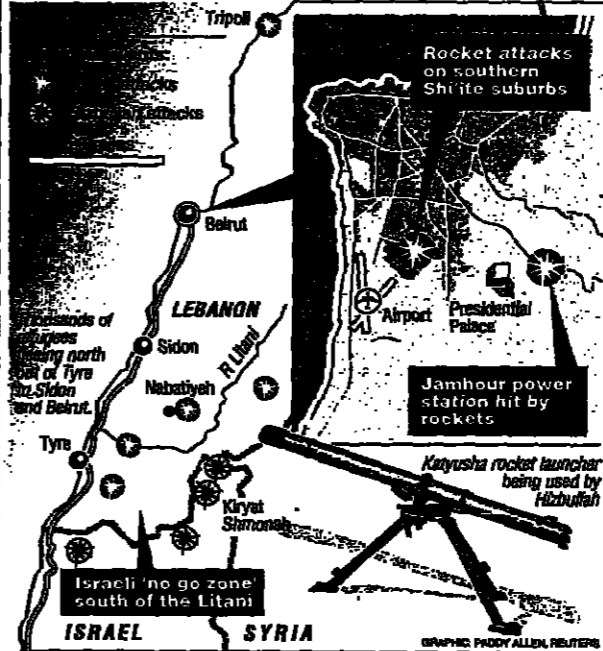
Commentary

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

IN CONFLICTS, all analogies and comparisons are inherently misleading. What follows, instead, is a fantasy. After the latest IRA bombings in London, the British government ordered a military offensive against the bombers and their supporters. The army — backed by loyalist paramilitary units — moved into the Irish republic to set up a buffer zone. Warnings were issued to the civilian population north of the zone to move out immediately, or risk coming under fire. The consequent artillery barrage, along with "pinpoint" airstrikes against selected targets in Dublin, killed no more than a couple of dozen innocent Irish people, although nearly half a million were forced to flee their homes. Although IRA bombing missions continued, and were even stepped up, most of the British media and public applauded the government's firm action. However, some cynical commentators pointed out that John Major — facing imminent elections — badly needed a boost in the opinion polls. Washington expressed mild concern and called for restraint, but officials pointed out that the IRA had only itself to blame for starting the whole thing and for the imbalance of fear is matched by the absurdly

certainly. But not in poor, bloody Lebanon. Four days after Israel launched its latest campaign of collective punishment, the death toll at a conservative estimate stands at some 22, with at least 120 wounded. The number of refugees is estimated at 400,000. The cost of the damage caused by dozens of airstrikes and at least 4,000 heavy artillery rounds, is incalculable. Not that the deadly traffic is one way. The pro-Iranian guerrillas of Hizbullah (The Party of God) have fired barrages of Katyusha rockets into Israel every day since Israel launched its own assault last Thursday. In the past week, 40 Israelis have been wounded. Whole communities in the north have been obliged to spend their nights, and most of their days, in bomb shelters. From the town targeted most by Hizbullah, Kiryat Shmona in the Galilee peninsula, nearly half the residents have fled south. But there is no moral or military equivalence in this ghastly conflict. The good folk of Kiryat Shmona have stout, secure bomb shelters; the equally good folk of south Lebanon have none. The 10,000 or so refugees in Israel have had generous assistance from the government and from aid organisations. Their evacuation has been orderly, and voluntary. In Lebanon, the exodus of 40 times as many people has been brutally forced and utterly disorganised. Yes, for all its alleged high-technology elec-

Trading rocket fire



skewed military contest. According to well-informed military analysts, Hizbullah has perhaps 300 full-time fighters. Their most formidable weapon is the Katyusha rockets, fired from multiple launchers. They are obsolescent, inaccurate and have a maximum range of about 12 miles. Each Katyusha round costs about \$2. Ranged against this tiny but viciously determined ragtag army is the Middle East's strongest military machine. Supersonic fighter jets, bristling with the highest-technology elec-

tronic devices, share the "surgical strike" work with American-made Apache attack helicopters. Then there are the batteries of tanks and self-propelled guns, their 155mm barrels trained on targets miles away and allegedly able to hit even moving objects accurately. Yesterday, the Israeli army showed off its latest device for foiling terrorism: the Gallop gun, which is said to locate Katyusha launch sites quickly with a heat detector. Yes, for all its alleged hammer firepower, the Is-

How violence escalated

March 4: Hizbullah guerrillas kill four Israeli soldiers in the zone in south Lebanon occupied by Israel. March 10: One Israeli soldier is killed in a Hizbullah bomb attack in the zone. March 14: Five Israeli soldiers are wounded in a Hizbullah raid. March 20: A Hizbullah suicide bomber kills one Israeli soldier near the border. March 30: Israeli forces shell villages in south Lebanon, killing two civilians. Hizbullah fires Katyusha rockets into northern Israel. April 8: A bomb kills a Lebanese boy in a guerrilla-held south Lebanon village. April 9: Hizbullah fires Katyusha rockets into northern Israel, wounding 36. April 10: Hizbullah shells the occupied zone. April 11-14: Israeli launches multiple attacks. — Reuters

Power-brokers seek editor

Martin Walker in Washington. AMERICA'S power-brokers are taking a close interest in who succeeds the British editor Andrew Sullivan at the leading political weekly, the New Republic. The White House favourite is Sidney Blumenthal, the editor of the New Yorker and a close friend of Tony Blair. But Mr Blumenthal said yesterday: "Nothing could induce me to work for Marty and Leon — there is no such thing as a real editor of the

New Republic." The publisher and owner of the New Republic is Marty Peretz, a Harvard professor who married the heiress to the Singer sewing machine fortune. Leon Wieseltier is the magazine's powerful literary editor. Mr Sullivan told the Guardian yesterday that he would continue to publish the journal for the next six weeks, but already a frenzy of speculation about his successor has been stirred in political and media circles in the United States. One internal candidate is

Charles Lane, who used to cover Central America and Bosnia for Newsweek; another could be White House correspondent Matt Cooper, currently the swim of former Clinton campaign star Mandy Grunwald. The New Republic was founded by Walter Lippmann in 1914 as the voice of internationalist and progressive liberalism. Beset by rightwing rivals such as the 800,000 circulation American Spectator and Rupert Murdoch's new weekly, the Standard, it is no longer even centre-left. Rather like the Clinton administration, it hovers between neo-conservatism and neo-liberalism. But it is still read, and taken with great seriousness, by the American elite.

The days of two dull men sitting in a studio discussing an agenda which is comprehensible only in Annie's Bar should have gone. Media G2 page 7

News in brief

Wrong evacuation message 'sent victims to deaths'

THE wrong evacuation message was broadcast during Thursday's fire at Düsseldorf airport, which may have been the cause of some of the 16 deaths, officials said. As 2,500 panicking staff and passengers rushed to find fire exits, a recorded airport announcement instructed passengers to go down to the arrivals floor — into the heart of Germany's worst-ever airport blaze. "For inexplicable reasons the wrong text went on for a

ETA hostage finally freed

The Basque separatist group ETA yesterday released the businessman José María Alday after holding him for almost a year, the longest the group has ever held a hostage. Mr Alday, aged 54, was last drugged in woods in the Basque region. The El País newspaper reported the interior ministry as saying that a 100 million-peseta (£550,000) ransom was paid. — AP.

Oil deal at risk

Abdul Amir al-Anbari, Iraq's chief negotiator in the oil-for-food talks, yesterday accused the United Nations of "changing the goal posts" in the negotiations, and warned the UN position could torpedo a deal to resume Iraqi oil sales. Negotiations are today scheduled to resume talks on a deal to allow Iraq to sell \$700 million worth of oil every 90 days to buy food and medicine for its people. — AP.

Sheikh's appeal

Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman, the blind Egyptian cleric convicted of a plot to bomb the United Nations and other New York sites, has appealed to followers to help end what he calls humiliating treatment in jail. A letter from the sheikh published yesterday in the London-based Al-Hayat newspaper accuses guards at the US Medical Centre for Federal Prisoners in Springfield, Missouri, of racial discrimination and religious prejudice. — AP.

Bases 'crucial'

The United States defence secretary, William Perry, seeking to preserve US military bases in Japan following fierce protests against them, said after his arrival in Tokyo yesterday they were crucial for peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. — Reuters.

'Anarchy' reigns in Monrovia

TERRIFIED Liberians have been left to fend for themselves among gangs of gunmen and looters in the capital, Monrovia, as aid workers abandoned the country. A two-day ceasefire was barely holding yesterday as the shelling of an army barracks continued and small arms fire clattered throughout the city centre. "Trugs roamed the streets brandishing AK-47s and grenades, but no longer appeared to be menacing civilians."

ETA hostage finally freed

The Basque separatist group ETA yesterday released the businessman José María Alday after holding him for almost a year, the longest the group has ever held a hostage. Mr Alday, aged 54, was last drugged in woods in the Basque region. The El País newspaper reported the interior ministry as saying that a 100 million-peseta (£550,000) ransom was paid. — AP.

Chechen pullout

Russia will start a gradual withdrawal of some of its troops from the breakaway republic of Chechnya today under a peace plan announced by President Boris Yeltsin, its chief commander in the region. Lieutenant General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, said. — Reuters.

Khaled barred

Israel barred Lella Khaled, who sprang to fame when she hijacked an American airliner in 1986, from entering the West Bank Palestinian self-rule area yesterday at the Allenby Bridge from Jordan. — Reuters.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE. MARE ST. LONDON E8 4SA. (Charity Ref. No. 23132). Dear Anonymous Friends, You did not wish your gifts to be spoiled by human words of thanks. Their value gleams in the untold relief you silently provide. We have honoured your trust, and always will. Sister Superior.

Hanging on by a single vote

It may not be over by Christmas

IN spite of noises off, it is hard to remember a more steadily lopsided political situation. Labour's lead in the polls barely changes from month to month. The Staffordshire byelection confirms the conclusion. May's local elections are likely to repeat it. The financial and diplomatic worlds stand by for a change of government, while the civil service prepares itself too. Everyone treats Tony Blair as Prime Minister-presumptive. Britain is ready for a general election and a Labour government.

But Britain is not going to get either for at least a year, not without something very unexpected. As MPs return to Westminster, the atmosphere may appear tense, thanks to that one-vote majority. But time and even the parliamentary arithmetic nevertheless remain on the Conservatives' side. Even if they lost a vote on rail this week (unlikely because of Unionist support) or on divorce next week (unlikely because of compromises), they would probably survive a confidence motion. After July, Parliament will not sit before October. After October, everything will give way to the Budget and, since nobody wants a winter election, the options are actually fairly limited.

Only three things are likely to change that — further by-election losses, a defeat on a confidence vote, or a decision by Mr Major to go early — and each of them is only a remote possibility. Byelection losses require by-elections, and there are none in the offing. For the government to lose a confidence vote, it must lose the support both of some backbenchers and of the Unionists. Weekend stories that two Conservative MPs are preparing to provide the first of these changes should be treated with great caution, since they contain no supporting evidence that the turkeys in question have decided to vote for Christmas. In any case, Mr Trimble's votes could probably be relied upon in the end.

That leaves the gambler's throw of an early election called by Mr Major himself. For that to happen, the Conservatives would have to feel confident that the polls were surging strongly their way and that it would not last into spring 1997. But where is the evidence for that? Not in Staffordshire SE and probably not in the local elections either. Perhaps a few more wobbly suggestions about increased taxes on middle income Britain from shadow ministers — following Clare Short's yesterday — might stimulate the surge. But, here again, there is no evidence yet that it would. John Major has shown that he can be a gambler, but he has never gambled without calculating the odds first.

The simple reality is that Britain is paying the price for our five-year electoral cycle. No democratic country in the western world has to wait as long between elections, and perhaps that's a British opt-out that should be abandoned. But when a British government goes off the rails early in a parliament — as the Major government did over Europe and the exchange rate within six months of its re-election in 1992 — and still retains its majority, the probability is of a long wait. Everything should be done to hasten the date of the general election, but it still looks like 1997, even now.

A scheme too far

Time to nip NHS privatisation in the bud

IN the meantime, few issues could cause more damage to the government than firm evidence of the privatisation of the health service. Yet this week finds ministers issuing contradictory statements over moves by hospitals which would mark the clearest shift yet to a privatised NHS. Stephen Dorrell, the health secretary, in an interview with the Guardian, says plans being drawn up by some trust hospitals to market their own brand of private health insurance were inappropriate. Yet only days later his junior health minister, Gerald Malone, declares there would be no objection to the hospital insurance scheme so long as certain conditions were met. If ever a contradiction needed quickly clearing up, this is it. About 30 hospitals are currently in negotiations with insurance companies over their own branded schemes. George Orros, the chief executive of Universal Health Consultants which acts as the go-between, has set out five possible options ranging from offering private treatment for conditions no longer treated on the NHS because of local health authority rationing to shorter waiting times through additional non-NHS clinics. But for the wariness by large insurance companies over undermining their own products, NHS private schemes could already have been under way. The big companies are still holding back but smaller firms remain involved.

Ministers are fudging. The junior health minister Baroness Cumberlege notes: "There has always been a mixed economy in the NHS". That is true. Undoubtedly the new move is only the latest in a long line of initiatives which have widened the involvement of the private sector in NHS work. Under the private finance initiative, some NHS hospitals are already expanding facilities. Earlier this month ministers approved plans for the first NHS hospital to be built entirely from private funds. Then there are local NHS contracts with private hospitals and the huge growth of private patient work within NHS hospitals. Last year the NHS earned £200 million from private patients — a larger turnover than BUPA, the biggest private provider. Three out of four NHS hospitals now treat private patients. The biggest sums are being made in London (up to £10 million in two separate hospitals) but the practice is nationwide with hospitals as far apart as Manchester, Norwich and Exeter, all earning over £1 million.

Obviously there are already some fine dividing lines between public and private health, but a private NHS insurance scheme is a leap too far. For all Mr Malone's insistence that the schemes must not "confer any advantage whatsoever in relation to NHS treatment", the move looks set to end the founding principle of the NHS: that treatment should be provided free at the point of use according to clinical need. Moreover, although the schemes would be initially restricted to individual hospitals, George Orros believes they could eventually be linked to provide a national private network. Mr Dorrell was right to resist that idea. He now needs to stamp on the schemes — and his juniors — before they make further headway. He should remind them of John Major's 1992 pledge: "No privatisation of health care, neither piecemeal, nor in part, nor in whole, not today, not tomorrow, not after the next election, not ever while I am Prime Minister".

The Class System in a Nutshell...



Letters to the Editor

Finance lessons are a cheap trick

HOW refreshing it is to find this positive proposal from a "government-backed think tank" (Children to learn finance, April 13) to inculcate youth with the elementary laws of a market society.

I am sure that classrooms will be packed with eager young students from deprived communities grappling with the intricacies of their share portfolios and personal health insurance premiums. The discovery that, in the absence of a sizeable lottery win, they will be unable to afford either will be truly invigorating — not least because it will bring home to those whippersnappers the realisation that failure to measure up could leave one sleeping rough on the streets.

Robert Page, Lecturer in Social Policy, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD.

THESE proposals are simply an attempt to turn schools into sales pitches for

the products of the finance industry and by the Government to soften up children to expect declining state provision of social security. As such, it would represent blatant commercial and political exploitation of children and should be consigned to the waste bin, where it belongs. (Dr) R G Walton, 14 Beechwood Drive, Penarth, South Glamorgan CF94 3QZ.

HOW can the Government justify their proposal to teach children to become stock market investors? Is it because they can't persuade the general adult population that it is a good idea despite the sale of tens of billions of pounds worth of state-owned assets at discount prices? Now they are apparently seeking to "get them while young". How balanced will the curriculum content be? How will it improve moral education?

(Rev) Eileen A Sanderson, 3 Stratford Avenue, Barnsley S74 8AA.

SO A City-led group will surge schoolchildren "to take greater personal responsibility for their own long-term financial security"? Could this be the same group of "the City's most powerful financial institutions" who devised the system that enabled Nick Leeson to lose £800million of other people's money?

Ken Hogan, 7 Oakdale, Bingley, West Yorkshire BD16 4AN.

FIVE years ago I taught a subject called Personal and Social Education (PSE). This involved informing secondary level pupils about their rights as citizens: where to get help and advice, employment rights (remember those), trade unions, how to apply for jobs, find a flat, basic money management etc. This was a low status subject because it was not examined and was regarded with suspicion by right-wing teachers.

If the Government really wanted to help our future citi-

zens it would rejuvenate PSE and give it the status it deserves.

The fact that the "finance industry" is keen to bankroll such a project should serve as a warning to any parent that this is a cynical and sinister form of social engineering rather than an attempt to help our children plan for their future.

Howard G Thorp, 31 Albemarle Road, Chorlton, Manchester M21 9EX.

WILL the Government-backed task force encourage school students to understand the link between share-owning and the situation where "the world of work is so precarious"?

Would a personal finance management course enable students to explore questions like "How many jobs have the privatised industries wiped out in order to make profits for the shareholders?"

Jake Bharier, 32 Station Road, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 1JL.

Survival of the fittest — or at least the most argumentative

NOT only does Darwinism not answer all the questions (Letters, April 13), those it does answer it gets spectacularly wrong. The latest research shows that, at least in social animals, it is not the "fittest" or "strongest" which survive. It is those which have the highest number of group bonds (or "friendships"). Co-operation rather than competition is the wider principle on which nature appears to operate.

Similarly, social Darwinism is dealt a deathblow by the realisation that the gene is not the primary source of biological expression — that honour belongs to the cell and its integrated membrane proteins.

Genes, in fact, are little more than blueprints for spare parts, and cells can exist perfectly well without their DNA.

Incidentally, in that he believed man was descended from primordial entities placed on earth by God, Darwin himself was a creationist.

Alan Grant, The Church House, Church Road, Frating, Essex CO7 7HE.

IN a discussion with creationists, I once asked how Adam and Eve's children could have been begot without committing incest — or, indeed, their grandchildren and beyond. Isn't incest a sin?

One of them eventually replied that God had given special dispensation. I asked where this could be found, but no evidence was forthcoming. It appears, therefore, that there is no possibility of denying the creation version, since any objection must ultimately be dismissed by special dispensation conjured from belief itself. Two of the three were teachers.

Incidentally, Tony Vinicombe, 23 Rutland Gardens, Hove, E Sussex BN3 5PB.

THE Darwin debate seems to be fermenting nicely in your letter columns. Could the Guardian be prompted to publish a series of educative and popularising philosophical articles? And perhaps appoint a philosophy correspondent?

D Robjant, 32 Hilberton Road, Throesbridge, Wiltshire BA14 7JB.

Army surplus

IN furtherance of the Government's manifesto commitment on empty homes, the MoD has sold or leased over 5,000 surplus married quarters in the last four years, many of them to housing associations and local authorities ("When a house is not a home", April 10).

Second, the sale of the married quarters estate will guarantee the release of thousands more properties over the next 25 years. Third, we have also looked after the immediate interests of the social housing sector by excluding from the sale over 1,500 properties, all of which have, or will be, sold or let to housing associations or local authorities. Fourth, it is self-evidently absurd to suggest that the taxpayer is "let down" when surplus public assets are sold to the highest bidder.

Finally, your readers might like to gauge the factual accuracy of the allegations by the sevenfold exaggeration in the "estimate" of £100 million as the cost of looking after empty MoD properties.

Earl Howe, Under-Secretary of State for Defence, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW1A 2HB.



Bosnia is worth a bomb

IT IS an interesting perception that UK companies invariably pick up the crumbs awarded in general contracts. An executive, sadly accompanying Ron Brown on his mission to Bosnia, was quoted as saying: "US business has learnt from its experience after the Gulf War. Europeans and Japanese had received a lion's share of Kuwait's reconstruction because they were first on the spot".

In general we are well served by government departments. The market intelligence provided by the ECO and DTI is second to none. Nevertheless, we would like to see much more high profile — in the French or US style — of senior government ministers visiting a country when

contracts are about to be awarded. And the MoD and armed services in general could do a great deal more when operating in trouble spots to help identify potential work for all areas of the public sector and not simply defence sales.

Colin Adams, Director, British Consultants Bureau, 1 Westminster Palace Gardens, 1-7 Artillery Row, London SW1P 1RJ.

Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a telephone number. We may edit letters: shorter ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot acknowledge those not used.

Winning teams

ON behalf of all those dedicated to its success, thank you for the timely leader (April 11) which turned the tide of fortune for West Bromwich Albion, successfully ending the long barren spell which had threatened relegation from the First Division.

Banished to the lower reaches, lack of investment would have resulted. Influential and creative players would have left. The traditions of the club would have been abandoned in an attempt to ensure survival.

Please write a leader in support of the Probation Service at the earliest opportunity. David Royce, 133 Havelock Road, Brighton BN1 6GN.

A LIBERAL, rejoices in our low poll in the Staffordshire South East by-election. All praise to our candidate who had the political good sense and concern for our country to tell her would-be supporters that this was the time and place for tactical voting. I hope that both we and Labour take note.

David Spreckley, 9 Park Road, Buckden, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 9SL.

Of Mr Black and the Government Inspector

Endpiece

Roy Hattersley

WE shall call him Mr Black. For that was the colour of the leather jacket which is central to his story. He can best be described in the words of "M Stevens (Mrs)", the Social Fund Inspector who has, for almost five months, examined the application for a grant which he made in November 1995. "I accept," wrote M Stevens (Mrs), "that Mr Black was then 64. That he has nervous debility, angina and diabetes, has had two strokes and drags his foot. That he feels the cold easily, makes frequent visits to his doctor and to hospital and that he has not had a winter coat for a long time."

I must take the blame for putting M Stevens (Mrs) to the inconvenience of discovering the gloomy facts of Mr Black's existence. For when he told me that the Social Fund — supposed to help people in desperate need — would not pay

the cost of an overcoat, I wrote to the Independent Review Service. Ann Greenshields (Mrs) replied: "In Mr Black's case the Inspector acknowledged that he clearly needs to have warm outer clothing. However, she decided on the facts of the case, in particular that he has a leather jacket, some savings, and the state of the budget, that he did not have enough priority to justify an award." She added that decisions were normally only reviewed if the Inspector had made an error of fact or law.

The error of fact seemed obvious enough. It was clearly wrong to believe that a man — 65 by the time of the appeal — is adequately protected against the cold by a waist-length leather jacket. The savings — rather less than £300 — I did not even mention. Most people would agree that an individual who suffered from a full paragraph of illness needed that tiny nest egg as protection against emergency. To be fair, the Social Fund Inspector never made much of the bank account. Indeed, back in 1995, she had agreed to buy Mr Black a fridge despite his wealth. It was the leather

jacket that did it — and the state of the Social Fund budget. The law requires inspectors to decide on the award of a grant after taking into consideration the amount which has already been paid from the Fund in his or her area. Need is not a condition which they can identify according to objective criteria. The decision on whether or not an old man needs a coat (or for that matter a fridge) is determined by how many other applicants have already received help. We must assume that when Mr Black wanted something to keep his food cold, the pot was full. When he wanted something to keep himself warm it was almost empty.

No decent society would deny an old man help because other men and women in desperate need had made their applications first. The "state of the budget" rule is iniquitous. The emphasis put — in Mr Black's case — on the possession of a leather jacket was probably just as bad. It was also ludicrous. Indeed, it was the sort of thing that we might expect in the works of Tom Sharpe or the Beachcomber column of long ago. The In-

spector, reviewing her own decision, revealed a natural talent for satire. "The fact that Mr Black had a leather jacket was of some relevance in that it seemed to me that a winter coat was a slightly less urgent need than it would have been if he had not had a leather jacket."

At this point — clearly fearing that I might imagine that she had been written by Gogol

'A jacket certainly covers less of the legs than a coat'

— the Government Inspector revealed the compassionate side of her character. "However, that is not to say that I consider the leather jacket provided Mr Black with adequate protection from the winter cold." She went on to demonstrate her powers of perception. "In paragraph 11 of my original decision, I stated that a jacket certainly covers less of the legs than would a full-length coat, that Mr Black clearly needs warm

outer clothing and that a long coat would no doubt be better for him than a shorter jacket... The existence of the leather jacket was only one factor in my decision."

I must take some of the blame for the long bureaucratic process that ended with the decision that Mr Black must go coatless through 1996. The letters from M Stevens (Mrs), Ann Greenshields (Mrs) and Rodney Champ of the Social Fund Commission's Support Team were all provoked by me. How much, I wonder, did the inquiry cost. And might it not have been cheaper as well as more compassionate to give Mr Black two or three £10 notes and send him to the nearest Oxfam shop? And what does the Social Fund Commission's Support Team do, stress counselling? They certainly do not advise him on public relations, unless we have come to the point when voters in this country want to save a few pounds at the expense of sick old men.

The case of Mr Black is the most absurd example of Social Fund behaviour that I have come across. But it is not the

most pernicious. A widow in my constituency who, after much pressure and argument, was awarded a council tenancy, remained in her fetid furnished rooms of the Social Fund would not buy her and her children the minimum furniture that they needed. Indeed, the whole Social Security system is riddled with such iniquities. A young man in his late teens was refused income support because his mother said: "There is always room at home with father would not allow him in the house."

The civilisation of a society is measured by the way in which it treats its underprivileged citizens. Any fool — and any second-rate government — can co-opt up wealth creators and the socially mobile. The behaviour of those agencies which deal with the disadvantaged suggests that we are presided over by an administration which is as callous as it is incompetent. The fact that the Social Fund's behaviour is sometimes ridiculous should not blind us to the fact that the law often requires it to be wicked.

سكانت الالهي

Little comfort for poor in Blair's blanket approach



Richard Thomas

POVERTY has vanished. Not in real life, of course — where the poor are stubbornly still with us — but from public debate. Even the term has become politically incorrect. Euphemisms abound: low income, disadvantaged, socially excluded, vulnerable. "Financially challenged" is surely just around the corner.

The poor have always been signalled by the right but now the left seems embarrassed by poverty, too. Don't mention the poor.

Thirty years ago, Brian Abel-Smith, who died last week, "rediscovered" poverty through diligent social research and number-crunching. Another rediscovery is long overdue. For the politicians, if no one else.

The poverty lobby, of course, claims it has been highlighting the plight of the poor on a daily basis. Groups like the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG), formed in the wake of Mr Abel-Smith's 1960s research, produce reams of statistics. Unfortunately, no one believes them any more.

Last week, the CPAG will publish a snapshot of poverty* showing that 18.5 million people — a third of the population — are poor, or on the margins of poverty. People are rightly sceptical of such claims. No one in their right mind thinks a third of us is poor.

The main reason the outpourings of the poverty indus-

try do not accord with everyday experience is that the figures are based on a cross-section of people — some of whom may be "poor" only for a short time. Many of the people who are poor at one point in time may be back on their feet a few months on.

Paul Johnson, writing in this month's *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*, shows that half of the people living on or below half average income in one year are above the line 12 months later. Only a third of the unemployed on income support spend more than two years on the giro.

There is a world of difference between a middle-manager down on his luck for a few months and a family living on means-tested benefits for decades.

Forget about the poverty tourists: it is the chronic, persistent poor — probably accounting for 5-10 per cent of

been the fracturing of our cities into council-estate ghettos of desperation, alongside smart Georgian squares.

Anne Green, a researcher at the University of Warwick, has charted the growing spatial polarisation between rich and poor during the 1980s. Her work shows that a person in the poorest "travel to work" area is six times more likely to be unemployed than someone in the most affluent. But the real tragedy is in the depths of the poverty: the former's chances of having been out of work for more than a year is 23 times higher than the latter's. There are no tourists here.

The squashing of our poorest into islands of neglect has transformed the experience of poverty. It is one thing to live on benefits in a decent area with little crime, a well-equipped GP surgery and good schools, quite another to

join the school PTA, setting up babysitting circles, looking out for each other's kids. And, of course, establishing Neighbourhood Watch schemes which exist almost exclusively in the richest, lowest-crime areas.

As Carey Oppenheim, one of the authors of the CPAG book, says: "Geographical polarisation changes the political agenda, because people don't see themselves as occupying the same world as the poor."

At its worst, community activism can take the form of barricade-building — working together to stop social housing or half-way homes for the mentally ill from "spoiling" the area.

Exclusion, in the Spirit of Community, did recognise the danger of rebuilding communities in that they will become insular and indifferent to the fate of outsiders. He therefore urged people to look beyond their own immediate neighbourhoods to those less fortunate than themselves.

But his prescription scarcely amounts to the kind of investment required to rescue our most marginal areas. The ways of helping these communities are almost endless, from sending food, blankets and volunteers when a neighbouring community is overwhelmed to sharing equipment and skills.

Blankets are not enough. Communitarianism will only be a progressive force if the fortunate see themselves as being in the same community as the poor. And the fracturing of our society makes this less, rather than more, likely.

The rhetoric of community has a powerful resonance in a society which has witnessed the destruction wrought by rampant individualism. It could be replaced by a rampant "communitism" that would leave the poor as invisible as ever.

*Poverty: the facts, CPAG, 1-5 Bath St, London EC1V 3PY.

Teachers and doctors working on sink estates should be paid two or three times as much as colleagues in leafy areas

the population — who really matter.

This is all very well, say the anti-poverty activists and Labour, but the only way to garner support from the middle class is to blur this distinction — make us think we are all in this together. Labour's emphasis on insecurity is part of this strategy — most of us, we are told, are "only one pay cheque from poverty".

But this tactic could backfire, at least for the poor. Voters know the difference between the fretting middle class and the abject poor — and banging on about the former risks diluting concern for those genuinely in need.

The poor are already marginalised. Not so much by the lack of money but by geography. One of the most striking trends of the past 15 years has

been the fracturing of our cities into council-estate ghettos of desperation, alongside smart Georgian squares.

Anne Green, a researcher at the University of Warwick, has charted the growing spatial polarisation between rich and poor during the 1980s. Her work shows that a person in the poorest "travel to work" area is six times more likely to be unemployed than someone in the most affluent. But the real tragedy is in the depths of the poverty: the former's chances of having been out of work for more than a year is 23 times higher than the latter's. There are no tourists here.

The squashing of our poorest into islands of neglect has transformed the experience of poverty. It is one thing to live on benefits in a decent area with little crime, a well-equipped GP surgery and good schools, quite another to

join the school PTA, setting up babysitting circles, looking out for each other's kids. And, of course, establishing Neighbourhood Watch schemes which exist almost exclusively in the richest, lowest-crime areas.

As Carey Oppenheim, one of the authors of the CPAG book, says: "Geographical polarisation changes the political agenda, because people don't see themselves as occupying the same world as the poor."

At its worst, community activism can take the form of barricade-building — working together to stop social housing or half-way homes for the mentally ill from "spoiling" the area.

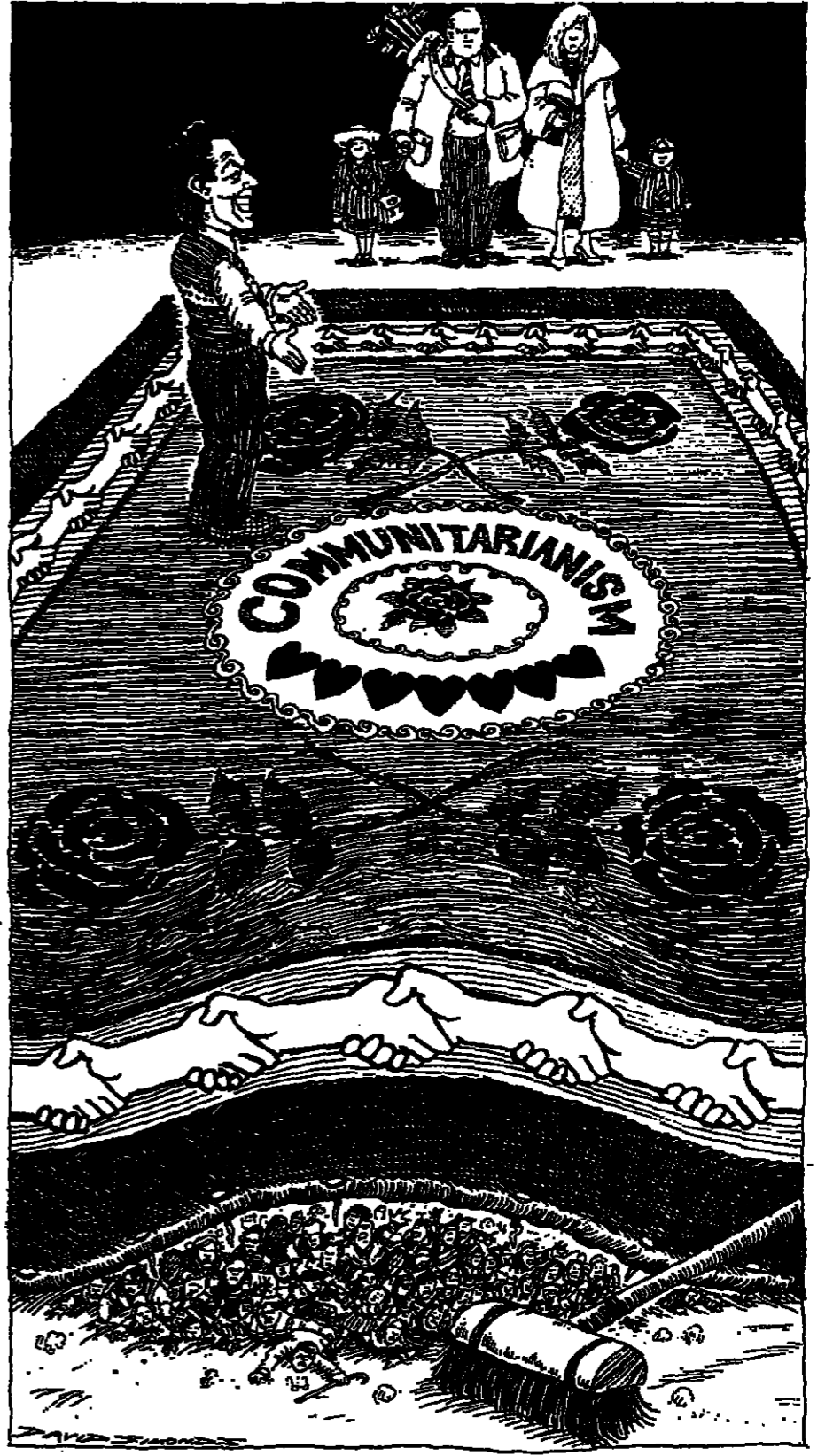
Exclusion, in the Spirit of Community, did recognise the danger of rebuilding communities in that they will become insular and indifferent to the fate of outsiders. He therefore urged people to look beyond their own immediate neighbourhoods to those less fortunate than themselves.

But his prescription scarcely amounts to the kind of investment required to rescue our most marginal areas. The ways of helping these communities are almost endless, from sending food, blankets and volunteers when a neighbouring community is overwhelmed to sharing equipment and skills.

Blankets are not enough. Communitarianism will only be a progressive force if the fortunate see themselves as being in the same community as the poor. And the fracturing of our society makes this less, rather than more, likely.

The rhetoric of community has a powerful resonance in a society which has witnessed the destruction wrought by rampant individualism. It could be replaced by a rampant "communitism" that would leave the poor as invisible as ever.

*Poverty: the facts, CPAG, 1-5 Bath St, London EC1V 3PY.



Youth rallies to rebuild worker solidarity

Debate

Jo-Ann Mort

TONY BLAIR'S recent trip to America could have been more informative had he strolled across the street from the White House to check out the newly revived AFL-CIO trades union federation.

He would have found a gang of young people organising the first "Union Summer," an attempt to recreate the "Freedom Summer" of the 1960s which catapulted the US into a civil rights revolution.

Then they descended on the South to register Afro-Americans for voting; this summer

today's young people — recruited from universities and shop floors — will sign up workers for union campaigns.

Workers' rights could become the civil rights issue of a new generation. Between organising and political action, the AFL-CIO plans to spend over \$50 million (\$33 million) rebuilding worker solidarity.

After decades when organised labour's numbers kept declining and its official stance was one of ease with Washington, a new leadership in the top positions of the AFL-CIO has put it back in contention as a potentially powerful force to reshape the US political map.

While much of labour's agenda will match that of the Democrats, some of it won't.

Yet the Democratic leadership appears to be delighted with a renewed labour movement, even when disagreements emerge — because organised labour is still the Democrats' best hope for electoral victories.

Although the business side of the Democratic Party thrives, it has virtually no one to put in the polling booth. The unions and their allies do.

The congressional Republicans, worried about organised labour's new militancy, held hearings to investigate the use of labour's new political education money. No labour leader showed up and the Democrats walked out.

The new AFL-CIO has engaged the American imagination for the first time since

the early 1960s when the Vietnam war caused a rupture between elements on the Left and organised labour. Progressives — including young people in search of a cause — are paying attention. But workers across the spectrum are also talking class struggle and many are active in union organising campaigns.

The AFL-CIO is about to launch town meetings across the US around the theme "America Needs a Raise." Raising the federal minimum wage — which has hit a 40-year low in terms of purchasing power — is emerging as a key issue in the presidential election campaign.

For the Democrats, class unifies in a way that their opponents can't. Only a populist economic agenda will gather voters for the Democrats to regain the White House and perhaps Congress where the more populist leaders among the Democrats reign.

Recognising the potency of class, even Republican nominee Bob Dole has adopted an anti-corporate edge in his campaign rhetoric, transparent though it is. Some of this class consciousness is the residue of the Buchanan campaign, where the former Nixon speechwriter picked up on the nation's discontent in a Mussolini-like embrace of workers, even openly supporting unions for the first time.

President Clinton and Mr Blair share a predisposition to a new democratic vision, downplaying class and employment issues. But the AFL-CIO's polling shows that workers will vote on economic issues and bread-and-butter-union issues. That means issues like a rise in the minimum wage, progressive taxation, and labour law reform to strengthen the hand of unions across the board.

The power imbalance between corporate heads and the majority of American workers must be redressed if the economy is to revive in a way that means jobs and raises wages.

Only strong unions can give workers that redress.

The author is vice-chair of Democratic Socialists of America.

Political parlour game where long-haired lovers and cropped puritan psalmists can never meet

Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

FORGET the revived Board of Trade presidency: true archaists yearn for the return of an even more venerable body, the Committee for Trade and Navigation, one of whose members was Richard Cromwell, son of Oliver and (briefly) his successor in the top job.

A cavalier/roundhead economic divide is a fun-sounding parlour game, but fixing the rules is such a headache most people give up. Try to out a few cavaliers and the trouble begins. Nigel Lawson? Hardly; he was all for the "overarching discipline" of the ERM. Chancellor Roy Jenkins? Not really; he was the last-but-one to balance the Budget. Fun-loving Lord Barber? He was determined the government's spenders should not be seen to win.

So how about a few puritans? The usual suspects spring to mind: the leftist types to whom share options, Rolls-Royces and the consumer society in general are "obscene" plus the super-hawkish Powellite minimum-government anti-inflationists.

Unfortunately, this New Model Army falls apart at the first crack of critical gunfire. The former group is game-on for full employment, big pay rises and plenty of inflation all round; the latter don't give a hoot about the "strong pound", the balance of payments or any other iron-Chancellor-ish issues, all of which they believe will prove all right on the night.

Just as the task seems hopeless, rescue arrives in the shape of the unlikelyst event (so far) of the year: the Osmonds revival. That sick-making tribe has been given visa clearance to re-enter Britain should of itself lead to the Home Secretary's instant resignation, but the family's return to the public eye

does provide one pointer in our quest for the economic roundhead.

You may remember one of the band (probably Marie) declared during the original Osmonds Terror that she and her fellow Mormons eschewed stimulants of all sorts, including tea, coffee and similar Class A gear. It could be that the concept of artificial stimulation takes us to the heart of the matter.

Whether it is the arch-monetarist demanding "real" zero prices and shunning "artificial" job creation or the ultra-green insisting industry meet impossible criteria of "sustainability", the puritan believes there is an organically sound level of underlying activity and a lot of dangerous, artificial froth on top, created by drug-styke "stimulation".

And the cavaliers? We prefer the mug of thick, brown, sweet tea approach, thank you. Plus the odd Senior Service, in memory of navigators past.

Sony phone only £9.99
Line rental only £9.99
Plus free calls option*

SONY

MODEL CM-H355.

- Backlit display
- 'Pop Up' earpiece
- 90 mins talk-time
- 24 hrs standby-time
- Complete with charger and standard battery
- Weight 235g

CELLPHONES DIRECT ECONOMY CALL

Monthly fee: £9.99 (inc. VAT)

Peak times 8.00-19.00 Mon to Fri. Standby 19.00-8.00 Sat and Sun. £3.77 inc VAT per month. Line rental included monthly in advanced and airtime charges will be debited to your nominated credit/debit card. Calls charged in units of 30 seconds after the first minute.

FREE CONNECTION - to the Vodafone network

OUR LOWEST EVER - monthly line rental

NO TARIFF INCREASES - guaranteed for life

* FREE CALLS OPTION - pay an extra £2.50 per month when you connect to Economy Call to receive £5.50 of inclusive monthly calls - that's £4.00 per month FREE

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND - Your phone is covered by our 14 days no quibble money back promise.

Cellphones direct

ORDER NOW WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

FREephone 0800 000 888

CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE WEEKDAYS WEEKENDS

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND YOUR AMOUNT OF MONEY READY WHEN YOU CALL AND HAVE YOUR CARD. CHECK WE ARE ABLE TO ACCEPT YOUR CARD.

Not subject to status and a standard address checked for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd. 185 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4JL. Full written details and terms and conditions of this offer are available on request. © Copyright. Registered No. 295222

Europe's game of measure for measure

Briefing

Sarah Ryle

EUROSCOPTICS enjoy the little fringes in life. There is the irony that Norway is the only European nation except Luxembourg that has already met all the Maastricht criteria for joining a single currency, yet its people have voted against membership of the EU.

Then there is the irony that since the UK dropped out of the ERM in 1992 it has experienced a recovery unrivalled in core EU countries Germany and France.

Unfettered by the constraints of keeping its exchange rate within the agreed limits, employment has risen, inflation has fallen and growth has at least matched that of the UK's key partners in Europe, according to OECD figures.

The Government has largely attributed steady recovery to tight control of public spending and a cautious stance on monetary policy. Despite the fact that total success has so far escaped the Chancellor — the Government is expected to have overshoot its PSBR target of £29 billion for 1995/96 by about £3 billion when the data is published on Thursday — the consensus held belief is that the UK will be one of the few EU members to easily pass the Maastricht criteria.

Even if the PSBR overruns

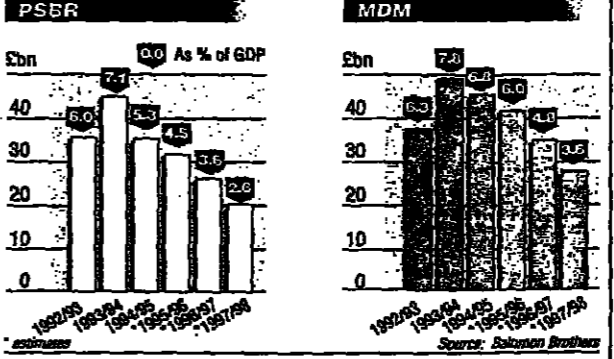
this year, next year and the year after that, forecasters do not expect it to be so out of line with Treasury predictions that it will break through the ceiling of three per cent of GDP or less. And if pressure predictions are correct (a PSBR of £22.4 billion at 8 per cent of GDP in 1996/97 and £15 billion at 2 per cent of GDP in 1997/98), then there should be room for fiscal relaxation, therefore tax cuts.

But in a recent paper, economist Michael Saunders at Salomon Brothers suggested that Britain's confidence has been misplaced. He agreed that, using the PSBR as the yardstick, Britain should have no problem with the Maastricht criteria. The problem, he argued, was that EU institutions will use a different measure.

Rather than use the PSBR, they would use general government financial deficit (GGFD) plus debt write-offs to public corporations.

This would shift the goal posts in three respects. The GGFD is counted on a calendar year, so while the PSBR is falling the Maastricht deficit measure (MDM) will al-

Can Britain meet the Maastricht criteria?



ways be greater because it is measured a quarter earlier. The PSBR includes profits from the Government's privatisation programme. The Treasury has estimated these gains at £3 billion in 1995/96, £4 billion next year and £2.5 billion the year after. But the GGFD would not benefit from these credits, which Mr Saunders suggested would keep it above the PSBR.

Finally, the MDM would exclude public corporations' earnings (£1.8 billion in 1995).

"Even if the current tight

public spending plans are adhered to, both before and after the general election, the MDM will probably still be above 3 per cent of GDP in both 1996 and the key year of 1997," said Mr Saunders.

The government's financial deficit as a proportion of GDP rests not only on how much it spends, but also on the GDP itself, and so predictions of the UK's success Maastricht-wise depend on the accuracy of the Treasury's forecasts.

Mr Saunders calculated that the PSBR for 1996/97 would be £26.5 billion and £20.5 billion in 1997/98; these would translate into an MDM of about £35 billion and £27.5 billion respectively. That would mean the UK would overshoot the 3 per cent Maastricht goal by 0.5 per cent in 1997.

Another irony then for the Euro-sceptic collection might be that the threats currently being made by prospective EMU "ins" against predicted "outs" could be a waste of breath. If the UK is not going to meet all the Maastricht criteria, bullying it into EMU would entail breaking the EU's own rules.

Indicators

TODAY — UK: PPI (Mar).

TOMORROW — US: Industrial production (Mar).

UK: Housing starts (Mar).

UK: Gilt auction announcement.

WEDNESDAY — UK: Underlying earnings (Feb).

FRIDAY — GERM: M3 (Mar).

UK: Unemployment (Mar).

Tourist rates — bank sells

Country	Rate	Country	Rate	Country	Rate		
Australia	1.8470	France	7.44	Italy	2.321	Singapore	2.07
Austria	15.35	Germany	2.2000	Malta	0.5850	South Africa	6.02
Belgium	45.10	Greece	357.00	Netherlands	2.4600	Spain	185.50
Canada	1.9900	Hong Kong	11.47	New Zealand	2.1650	Sweden	8.95
Cyprus	0.75	India	51.76	Norway	8.55	Switzerland	1.78
Denmark	8.92	Ireland	0.9400	Portugal	227.00	Turkey	105.028
Finland	7.02	Israel	4.78	Saudi Arabia	5.93	US	1.4780

Supplied by Reuters Bank including Indian rupee and Israeli sheqel at rates of business on Friday.

Rugby League

Stones Super League
St Helens 26, Bradford Bulls 20

Bulls scent a Wembley stampede

Paul Fitzpatrick

THERE will be few disappointed customers at Wembley on Saturday week if the Challenge Cup final between these teams is as competitive and intense as this. The first half, which Saints dominated to lead 24-8, underlined their position as Cup favourites, but the second half was a different story.

left with other problems to ponder; five minutes from time Vili Matutu was sent off for elbowing Simon Knox, and anything more than a one-match ban would put him out of the final.

Certain to miss Wembley is James Lewis; he is cup-tied and that is a shame. The former Leeds hooker had an outstanding afternoon and will be sorely missed, though the Bulls will have two highly influential forwards in Jeremy Donoghue and Karl Fairbank available. Both were absent yesterday.

Saints were never the same after losing Apollo Perelini, who had scored a remarkable try in the first half. He broke the first line of defence in his own half and ran 80 metres for the touchdown. It would have been a good score from a top-class centre; from a prop it was astonishing.

Soon after half-time Perelini went off with a recurrence of knee trouble and Saints subsided badly as the ever-improving Calland scored good tries in the 50th and 72nd minute and McNamara landed his first goals since arriving from Hull.

Five-try Wigan back in swing

WIGAN regained their form of old as they eased to a 28-10 victory at Castleford last night, thanks to tries from Connolly, Farrell, Paul, Robinson and Bradley. The Sheffield Eagles overcame the challenge of London Broncos, scoring six tries in a 34-18 win after the sides had been dead-locked at 12-12 at the break. It was the Eagles' third win in a row.

Warrington will find out today whether the Wigan prop Kelvin Skerrett is willing to assist their rebuilding programme. The 29-year-old Great Britain forward spent the weekend considering a move to Widnespool after being told unambiguously by the champions that he could leave. Alex Murphy, Wire's football executive, wants an answer today.

They retaliated with tries from Calland and Scales but, with Newlove scoring against his former colleagues, the Bulls were still 16 points adrift at the interval. Plenty of recent Bradford sides that would have crumpled at that point; this one got better and better. Their coach Brian Smith swallowed his disappointment. "I'm proud to be in charge of these men," he said.

St Helens: Matt Arnold, Gibbs, Newlove, Pennington, Hammonds, Gough, Pennington, Cunningham, Leatham, Joynt, McVey, Morley, Substitutes: Hayes, Marryn, Mitchell, Peckham. Bradford: Cook, Chiswick, Calland, Laughlin, Scales, Bradley, Paul, McCreck, Lewis, Ireland, Dwyer, McNamara, Substitutes: Donohue, Robinson, Knox, Skerrett, R Smith (Castleford).



Bull rush... Bradford's McNamara loses possession while charging the hard-pressed St Helens defence

Connolly comes under scrutiny

JOHN CONNOLLY played a significant part in Leeds' George Mann point and were looking capable of registering their first win in the Super League. It cost them two points for the penalty and, while Gibbons was absent, Crompton scored his second try of the game. Manley added the goal and the game for Oldham, at 25-16, was safe.

played a significant part in Leeds' fourth successive defeat. Connolly sent Anthony Gibbons, the young Leeds full-back, to the sin-bin in the 64th minute, apparently for ball-staying. This used to be a sin-binning offence but is now allowed in a one-on-one situation, which this clearly was.

Gibbons' departure reduced Leeds to 12 men at a time when they had cut an early 17-0 deficit to one point and were looking capable of registering their first win in the Super League. It cost them two points for the penalty and, while Gibbons was absent, Crompton scored his second try of the game. Manley added the goal and the game for Oldham, at 25-16, was safe.

Thrum Hall in January, a mistake which helped Halifax beat Warrington 20-14. Connolly was stood down from his next match and his remaining fixtures were reviewed. Three tries from their international centre, Pierre Chabornin helped Paris to maintain their encouraging start to the season at the Charley Stadium on Saturday. They beat Workington Town, who are still looking for their first points, 34-12.

Racing

Alhaarth has Craven as a soft option

Chris Hawkins

THIS week marks the beginning of the Flat season proper and the build-up to the Classics, first of which, the 2,000 Guineas, is less than three weeks away. Although the Newmarket Craven meeting, which begins tomorrow, features several important trials it looks as if Newbury has captured the real favourite with Bosra Sham, due to run in Friday's Fred Darling Stakes and the 2,000 hot pot Alhaarth in Saturday's Greenham Stakes.

The last time the favourites won both the 2,000 Guineas and the 2,000 Guineas was in 1988 when Ravinella and Doyoun both obliged at odds of 4-5. Alhaarth is already that short, while Bosra Sham is a long favourite for the 2,000 Guineas, due to run in Friday's Fred Darling Stakes and the 2,000 hot pot Alhaarth in Saturday's Greenham Stakes.

At least, in Blue Duster, a 7-2 chance with Hill's, there is a viable alternative to Bosra Sham, but David Loder, trainer of this filly who was a two-year-old, is keeping her under wraps until the Guineas itself. She will not be seen in any of the trials, which leaves tomorrow's Shadwell Stud Nell Gwyn Stakes short of significance unless there is a scintillating performance from her stable companion Maid For The Hills or John Dunlop's Bint Salsabil, neither of whom figure in the betting at the moment.

The Crigette Head-trained filly, A Vore Santa, has advanced steadily in the antepost market and now stands at 10-1 with Hill's, but she is not yet a certain runner. Apparently no decision will be taken until next weekend after the stable's Occupant has run at Longchamps. Alhaarth is entered for Thursday's Craven Stakes at Newmarket, but is more likely to go to Newbury unless there is a lot of rain in Berkshire in the next day or so - his trainer, Dick Hern, does not want him to run on soft ground. Northampton King, winner of the Racing Post Trophy and supplemented last week for the Vodafone Derby, is a Craven favourite, but the most interesting runner is Pommar from the John Gosden stable.

Gosden realises that quite a few bubbles are going to be burst this week and hopes Pommar's is not among them. A 161 chance for the 2,000 with Hill's, he is the Newmarket "talking horse" this spring and little can be gleaned from his only win in a Sandown maiden last year.

Donnell Dancer, unbeaten until put in the place by Alhaarth in the Newmarket Stakes last season, is another possible for the Craven, although he is also in Wednesday's Free Handicap and the Greenham.

It was thought he would miss the Newmarket Guineas and go to France or Ireland instead, but he is back in the picture at least for the time being and is quoted at 25-1. The Scottish Grand National takes place at Ayr on Saturday and Tom Tate hopes that Lo Stragone can gain some consolation for missing the Martell National.

The gelding was favourite for Aintree until meeting with a set-back, but Tate rates his chances of running at Ayr as 60-8. A blood test on Thursday will determine whether or not he makes it. At Ascot on Saturday, the 22-year-old Irish amateur Jim Culloty stole the show with a 508-1 treble, meaning that he had ridden 13 winners in six racing days.

That will be the end of his incredible run, however, as today he starts two previously imposed whip bans totalling nine days. Culloty said he dared not stop his sick on Saturday, which perhaps tells its own story and certainly provides the anti-whip brigade with ammunition for their argument. Attached to Henrietta Knight's stable, Culloty intends to turn professional next season, and along with Richard Johnson, could be one of the stars of tomorrow. He certainly has that priceless but intangible asset of getting horses to run for him. At Musselburgh (Edinburgh) this afternoon, Plum First (3-00) looks a decent bet in the Tolbooth Limited Stakes. He has shown improved form this season and finished strongly when going down by three-quarters of a length to the prolific Kira in a 19-runner handicap at Newcastle last Monday.

Musselburgh with form guide

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.30 Paul Traceability, 2.30 Haulaway Hill, 2.30 Plum First (imp)).

Southwell National Hunt Jackpot card

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.30 Bessie Dandy, 2.30 Rafter Sharp, 2.30 Shining Light).

Hexham (N.H.) runners and riders

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 2.10 Craymoor, 2.10 Charming Gate, 2.10 Brlay).

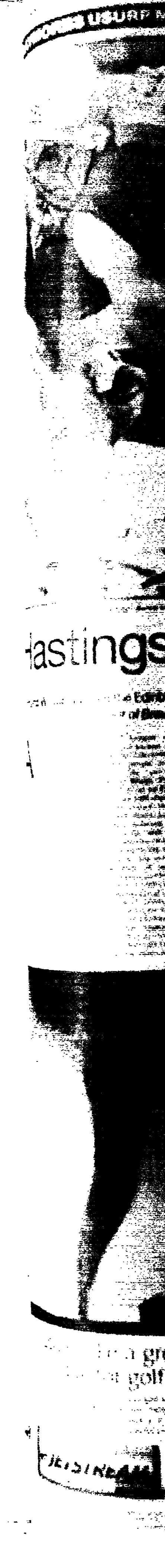
Over the top

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details (e.g., 4.50 FOX HILLERS BUNNIES, 5.00 BONDIE BARNEY ONLY HANDICAP).

Over the top

RACELINE advertisement featuring a grid of race numbers and names, and a 'MUSSELBURGH' logo.

FRANKIE DETTORI part-nered Overbury to an easy victory in the Queen Elizabeth II Cup in Hong Kong yesterday, but the Sha Tin stewardship dismounted him for his acrobatic dismount from the winner and requested that he never again perform his spectacular feat in the Colony.



Handwritten text in Arabic script: 'صلى الله عليه وسلم'.

CLAYMORES USURP MONARCHS IN OVERTIME



Snapshot... the London Monarchs get down to business in their first game of the new season at White Hart Lane yesterday in front of more than 16,000

Hastings leaves Fridge in the cold

Richard Williams sees the Edinburgh side win 24-21 in a worthy attempt to transfer the spirit of Braveheart to the World League

AS multicultural rituals go, yesterday's inaugural Budweiser Cup was not even the biggest thing in north London...

World League of American Football kicked off on Saturday in Düsseldorf...

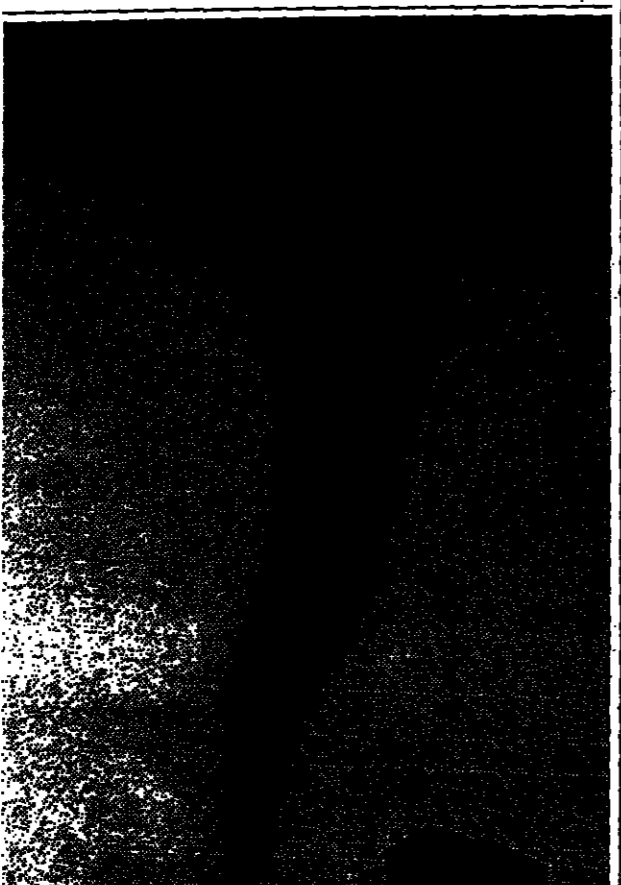
Edinburgh's Super Bowl-winning Chicago Bears squad of the mid-Eighties and a symbol of the first wave of British interest in gridiron football...

The Monarchs took the lead towards the end of the second quarter when Jones found the impressive Green...

Only 1min 53sec remained on the clock when Sean Lachapelle of the Kansas City Chiefs outpaced the Monarchs' triple coverage...

Larry Wallace's long, jinking broken-field run to the Claymores' 38-yard line gave Sonny Fesko the chance of a field goal with three seconds left...

'Gavin handled himself like a pro. You'd have thought he'd been playing for 25 years'



Looks like a great day for golf. Dunlop Jetstream is a new idea in golf balls... DUNLOP GOLF INTERNATIONAL, RIPLEY DRIVE, ROXBOROUGH, WEST YORKSHIRE WF9 1QT. TELEPHONE 01924 836663.

Ice Hockey Double first for Britain

Tony Allen in Eindhoven GREAT BRITAIN finally got off the mark in Pool B of the world championships here with two wins at the weekend to allay growing fears of relegation...

completely with further goals by Merv Priest, Steve Moria and Simon Hunt. In the third period Tim Cranston netted from a penalty shot before the defenceman Johannes Storer scored a late consolation to make the final score 6-2 and leave the host nation as the likeliest relegation candidates...

seconds through Neil Morgan, and Tim Cranston added another goal in the ninth minute. The scorer on each occasion benefiting from a rebound off the goalie's pads. Poland rallied briefly to draw level with goals by Tkacz and Podlipil but the defenceman Paul Dixon restored Britain's lead in the 38th minute and, with less than two minutes of the game remaining, Cranston scored his second to seal a 4-2 victory...

Athletics No troubles for Jackson in Johannesburg

COLIN JACKSON, the world-record holder, put his domestic troubles behind him to win the event in the All Africa International in Johannesburg yesterday. The Welshman's 13.38sec was enough to beat Igor Kovac of Slovakia into second place. Jackson is reconsidering his boycott of most of this season's domestic meetings following a row with the British Athletic Federation chief executive Peter Radford. He met British officials when he returned from South Africa later this week...

Badminton England chance for bronze

RICHARD JAGO in Herning PETER KNOWLES's unexpected win over the world No. 28 Jeroen van Dijk hastened a 4-1 victory over the Netherlands and left England in contention for bronze team medals against Russia at the European Championships here in Denmark today. It was the second defeat for the Dutch and the second win by England, who beat Sweden 3-0 on Saturday. Simon Archer is still carrying an ankle ligament injury, though, and nearly lost his mixed doubles with Julie Bradbury after trailing 7-10 in the final game to Ron Michels and Erica van den Heuvel. With Nick Ponting also injured, Archer must play...

Archer is still carrying an ankle ligament injury, though, and nearly lost his mixed doubles with Julie Bradbury after trailing 7-10 in the final game to Ron Michels and Erica van den Heuvel. With Nick Ponting also injured, Archer must play...

Basketball Bears left with a mountain to climb

Robert Pycoe THE Worthing Bears are looking for a new owner next season and a couple of miracles this week. After limping through the spring they came on strong in the first game of the play-offs on Saturday but still fell short. Worthing look like relinquishing their hold on the Budweiser Championship after losing the quarter-final first leg at home to the Sheffield Sharks, 78-75. They can still return to Wembley but they must beat the Sharks on Wednesday and Sunday...

and both games are in Sheffield. The Bears looked like contenders this season until Derrick Flair went home to the US and Andrew Bailey damaged his shoulder. Bailey was back on Saturday, but his injury makes shooting painful. This is not an affliction that affects many of the Bears. Following the example of their player-coach Colin Irish, they like to shoot. They have the worst percentage in the league, but when they are hot they pile up the points. In the third quarter on Saturday they were hot. Led by Irish, who finished with 30 points, they outscored the Sharks 22-7 to lead 64-55. 'They had one of those games,' said the Sheffield coach Jim Brandon. 'They were firing from out of their ears and they were going in.' Brandon stirred his team and they scored 14 of the next 16 points to take a 69-56 lead. Irish hit one more three-pointer but Todd Cauthorn sealed it with two free throws. In fact the top four teams all won on their opponents' courts, though the Leopards needed two free throws a second from free to survive into overtime against the Manchester Giants.

Kenyan victory at the International Amateur Athletic Federation World Road Relay Championships in Copenhagen yesterday. His six-man team completed the marathon distance race in 40 seconds over two hours. Kimani broke away on the 6.25-mile second stage to give his team-mates a lead they never relinquished. Kimani is now setting his sights on Atlanta, where he hopes to become only the second Kenyan to win an Olympic 10,000m title. The best performance of the day came from Brazil's Dairis Dos Santos, who clocked 28min 51sec on the fourth stage. Brazil hung on to finish second in 2hr 1min 24sec. Ethiopia took the bronze.

Kenyan victory at the International Amateur Athletic Federation World Road Relay Championships in Copenhagen yesterday. His six-man team completed the marathon distance race in 40 seconds over two hours. Kimani broke away on the 6.25-mile second stage to give his team-mates a lead they never relinquished. Kimani is now setting his sights on Atlanta, where he hopes to become only the second Kenyan to win an Olympic 10,000m title. The best performance of the day came from Brazil's Dairis Dos Santos, who clocked 28min 51sec on the fourth stage. Brazil hung on to finish second in 2hr 1min 24sec. Ethiopia took the bronze.

Cycling Museeuw finds heaven at the end of Hell

JOHAN MUSEEUW, Belgium's king of the classics, won the centenary Paris-Roubaix event yesterday in a race which finished in a procession for his Mapei team as they took the first three places. Museeuw broke away with his Italian team-mates Gianluca Bortolami and Andrea Tafi about 75 kilometres from the end of the 263.5km course over the cobblestones and narrow lanes of northern France in the race known as the Hell of the North. But the friendly pact between the three looked set to break down when they started arguing among themselves near the end and it took busy discussions with the team director Patrick Leffevre to arrange a suitable finish. In the end the three rode into the Roubaix velodrome together, raised their arms in a triple triumph and made no effort at a sprint with Museeuw allowed to lead over the finish line followed by Bortolami and Tafi. It was an unprecedented end to a World Cup race and a great day for Mapei, who also took fifth place through last year's winner, the unlucky Franco Ballerini of Italy. Ballerini missed the chance to join the Mapei breakaway when he suffered three punctures in quick succession and, though he came back strongly enough to suggest he could have caught up, cycling team ethics ruled out such an attempt. Ballerini, closely trailed by Stefano Zanini of the rival Gewiss stable, could not threaten a victory for his own team by forcing the pace and opening up a chance for the young Italian to win. Museeuw's victory, the seventh World Cup triumph of his career, filled the one big gap in his record and put him on top of this season's standings and in with a good chance of retaining his World Cup title. 'It was the team boss who decided it would win at the end,' said Museeuw. 'It's an incredible feeling.' His victory was well-earned after a gruelling six-hour race in which dry weather and heat resulted in clouds of dust being thrown into the faces of riders. Museeuw had taken part in an earlier breakaway with Erik Zabel of Germany, Wilfried Peeters of Belgium and Laurent Desbiers of France and the four were caught only at the cobbled stretch of Wallers-Arenberg midway through the race.

Hockey Poor sales pitch for Atlanta Games

CHAOS continued to dog the pre-Olympic tournament here yesterday. The main pitch at Clark University was still unfit for action because it was too wet, while play on the practice pitch that has been used instead was delayed because it was not wet enough. Although the main playing surface, one of those to be used for the Olympic tournament in July, was laid in time for Saturday's second series of games, heavy rain meant it was not possible to paint the lines. Rain yesterday further delayed the work. It was decided to stay on the warm-up pitch for matches but, while the hottest day of the year here failed to dry out the main surface, it meant that the warm-up pitch had to be watered, which produced yet another problem. The local water supply had been cut off and fire engines were urgently summoned but the start of the first game, between Great Britain and India, was held up for more than half an hour. It was not the sort of build-up Britain needed after losing 2-0 to Pakistan on Saturday, a result that ended their 17-match unbeaten run. Most of the game was played in rain which was sometimes heavy. They were conditions that ought to have suited Britain, especially on a poor pitch, but it was the world champions' better control that proved decisive. It did not help Britain's cause that they conceded a goal in the second minute. The Pakistani right-winger Asif Bajwa always had the pace to trouble Simon Hazitt and after going past Britain's left-half he beat the goalkeeper Simon Mason from a tight angle. Bajwa also helped set up Pakistan's second goal a minute before half-time, following a counter-attack from a British corner. The newcomer Alesan Raza seized the chance from close range. Pakistan did not win a single corner while Britain wasted four, struggling to control the ball on the bumpy pitch. Britain's manager David Whittaker, who said that the pitch had been 'just impossible', was very disappointed that Britain did not get more out of the game. 'We took the game to them and should have done better with the pressure we put on and the amount of ball we had, especially in the first 40 minutes, but we were punished for two pieces of sloppy defending.' Britain's Olympic women, having lost 0-0 to the Netherlands at Milton Keynes on Saturday, have flown out to join the chaos in Atlanta.

CHAOS continued to dog the pre-Olympic tournament here yesterday. The main pitch at Clark University was still unfit for action because it was too wet, while play on the practice pitch that has been used instead was delayed because it was not wet enough. Although the main playing surface, one of those to be used for the Olympic tournament in July, was laid in time for Saturday's second series of games, heavy rain meant it was not possible to paint the lines. Rain yesterday further delayed the work. It was decided to stay on the warm-up pitch for matches but, while the hottest day of the year here failed to dry out the main surface, it meant that the warm-up pitch had to be watered, which produced yet another problem. The local water supply had been cut off and fire engines were urgently summoned but the start of the first game, between Great Britain and India, was held up for more than half an hour. It was not the sort of build-up Britain needed after losing 2-0 to Pakistan on Saturday, a result that ended their 17-match unbeaten run. Most of the game was played in rain which was sometimes heavy. They were conditions that ought to have suited Britain, especially on a poor pitch, but it was the world champions' better control that proved decisive. It did not help Britain's cause that they conceded a goal in the second minute. The Pakistani right-winger Asif Bajwa always had the pace to trouble Simon Hazitt and after going past Britain's left-half he beat the goalkeeper Simon Mason from a tight angle. Bajwa also helped set up Pakistan's second goal a minute before half-time, following a counter-attack from a British corner. The newcomer Alesan Raza seized the chance from close range. Pakistan did not win a single corner while Britain wasted four, struggling to control the ball on the bumpy pitch. Britain's manager David Whittaker, who said that the pitch had been 'just impossible', was very disappointed that Britain did not get more out of the game. 'We took the game to them and should have done better with the pressure we put on and the amount of ball we had, especially in the first 40 minutes, but we were punished for two pieces of sloppy defending.' Britain's Olympic women, having lost 0-0 to the Netherlands at Milton Keynes on Saturday, have flown out to join the chaos in Atlanta.

Archery Archer still carrying an ankle ligament injury, though, and nearly lost his mixed doubles with Julie Bradbury after trailing 7-10 in the final game to Ron Michels and Erica van den Heuvel. With Nick Ponting also injured, Archer must play...

Archery Archer still carrying an ankle ligament injury, though, and nearly lost his mixed doubles with Julie Bradbury after trailing 7-10 in the final game to Ron Michels and Erica van den Heuvel. With Nick Ponting also injured, Archer must play...

Archer is still carrying an ankle ligament injury, though, and nearly lost his mixed doubles with Julie Bradbury after trailing 7-10 in the final game to Ron Michels and Erica van den Heuvel. With Nick Ponting also injured, Archer must play...

UNSECURED PERSONAL LOANS 13.8% APR 0800 30 3000

ds trip
is' day



Shrewsbury sub surfaces at Wembley... Lynch rises well to a second-half cross but finds four Rotherham defenders in his wake

Auto Windscreen Shield Final: Rotherham United 2, Shrewsbury Town 1

Clough cohorts unearth a Jemson

Paul Weaver at Wembley

THE Auto Windscreen Shield presented to Rotherham United yesterday had Brian Clough's fingerprints all over it. The club is managed by Archie Gemmill and John McGovern, who collected trophies galore with Clough in their Derby County and Nottingham Forest years.

Nigel Jemson, who scored both Rotherham goals to make the man-of-the-match verdict simple, is also a former Clough man. He had three happy years at Forest and scored their winner against Oldham in the 1990 Littlewoods Cup final before moving to Sheffield Wednesday in September 1991. Four months later his career appeared over when he was cut from the wreckage of his sponsored car.

He eventually signed for Notts County but, although he has made a full recovery and is still only 26, he appears to have no future either there or with Rotherham, despite his seven goals in 15 games on loan.

"I would love to have him but we simply can't afford him," said Gemmill after the match. "He can hold up, play it and score goals. But I thought it was a team performance today."

Overshadowed by the big Sheffield clubs, Rotherham have been light on silver-

ware over the years. They have never got beyond the fifth round of the FA Cup and their league records have been equally modest. The Auto Windscreen Shield may not be much but it is a start.

Considering that Rotherham and Shrewsbury are level on points just above the relegation zone in the Second Division, a closer contest might have been expected. Until Shrewsbury scored in the last 10 minutes, however, this was a very one-sided game.

"The occasion got to us," said Town's manager Fred Davies. "We did not do ourselves justice. We didn't rise to the occasion. Having said that, the lad who

scored both their goals was the difference between the two teams. He was composed when it mattered."

Rotherham went ahead in the 20th minute when Blades took a throw-in on the left. Goater, who had helped to organise the take-up of this final to his native Bermuda, rounded Walton and pulled the ball back for Jemson to score with a simple left-footed shot.

A double gift assisted Jemson's second goal after 53 minutes. Walton under-hit his header back to the goalkeeper Edwards, who compounded the error by misdirecting the ball wildly at Jemson, who was left with an open goal.

Shrewsbury's consolation goal came in the 81st minute when their captain Mark Taylor rewarded a clever run by Ian Stevens. Jemson could have made victory safe but went for his hat-trick instead of passing, and there was an anxious 10 minutes before Rotherham — none of whose celebrated ex-managers Tommy Docherty, Ian Porterfield, Emyln Hughes or Norman Hunter did much for them — finally had something to shout about.

Referee: Clive Blundell. **Goalkeepers:** Richard, James, Goodwin, Barry, Goater, Roscoe. **Substitutes:** Gower, King, White, Taylor, Whiston, Scott, Robinson, Lynch, Walton, Spink (Anthonis), Welton, Bentley. **Referee:** D. Allison (Lancaster).

part after a handful of appearances. Having beaten the offside trap, Bridges ran cleverly on to Bracewell's pass. He passed in the area and fed the ball into the path of Michael Gray, who had hurried to the edge of the six-yard box. Unfortunately Gray shot high into the heart of the 5,000 travelling fans.

And that was that. Both managers, though not thrilled, seemed content with a point. Peter Reid knows four more will ensure promotion and Howard Kendall is already enthused about next season. The capture of Ian Rush would lend credence to such optimism, as would that of another Welshman present on Saturday, Neville Southall. Sheffield United, West Ham, Coventry, York, Walsley, Mansfield, Barnsley, Millwall, Scunthorpe, Luton, Blackpool, Rotherham, Burnley, Gillingham, Bournemouth, Reading, Middlesbrough, Ipswich, Norwich, Charlton, and Notts County were also present.

Referee: J. Brindwood (Leicester).

Soccer

First Division: Ipswich Town 2, Norwich City 1

Fans and Gunn in derby storm

Carl Adams

THREE Norwich players claimed they were hit by fans invading the Portman Road pitch at the end of an incident-ridden derby in which Ipswich's winger came through a bizarre own goal by Robert Ullathorne.

Ullathorne reported bruised ribs, while his teammates Carl Bradshaw and Robert Fleck also maintained they were hit. There was a further claim that the Norwich goalkeeper Bryan Gunn had struck a spectator who would not release the ball shortly before the end of the game, in which seven players were booked by Jim Rushton, all in the first half.

Norwich's manager Gary Megson was philosophical about invading fans. "These things shouldn't hap-

pen," he said. "I don't want to be dwelling on some of the moans who come on to the pitch after the game."

"Of course I'm not happy with it but it's up to the referee and up to Ipswich. But I don't think there's much they could do about it."

Megson exonerated both Ullathorne and Gunn, who missed as he attempted to kick clear his colleague's back pass, for the own-goal four minutes from time.

Megson blamed the pocket-marked Portman Road surface on which Ullathorne's pass clearly bobbed. "It wasn't a mistake," he said. "It was a freak. I don't think you see that too often. It's a lousy way to lose any game, especially a derby."

Norwich, who had four men booked, had several other reasons to feel hard done by. One of Ipswich's yellow cards went to their 18-year-old goal-

keeper Wright after 23 minutes for a foul on Fleck outside the area when some referees would have issued the red.

Four minutes earlier Norwich had lost their central defender Polston, carried off with a head wound requiring six stitches following an accidental clash with Scowcroft.

Ipswich's first goal stemmed from the Wright incident. The goalkeeper held Crook's free-kick before un-leashing a clearance that missed everyone near Marshall, who scored with an angled drive past Gunn.

Norwich equalised through the substitute Cureton, who scored in the 52nd minute with a rising drive almost immediately after coming on.

Derby consolidated second place and are guaranteed a play-off berth at worst after a hard-fought 0-0 draw at Charlton yesterday.

Sheffield United 0, Sunderland 0

Bore draw the verdict as Chamberlain saves day

Michael Walker

ULTIMATELY scoreless, virtually chanceless, the two in-form teams in the First Division failed to overcome the twin terrors of the passing game — a brown, bumpy pitch with too many fat runs and its counterpart, the high, bounding ball.

Fifty-three minutes of pitch and puff produced two saves of note, both from Alec Chamberlain — Sunderland's stand-in keeper for the injured Shay Given — and both were the result of scrappy defending rather than attacking creativity. Other than the surface ruled and both managers referred to its state afterwards.

Chamberlain's first action came in the 10th minute after Coywans had charged down a poor clearance. The ball fell

to Walker, who struck truly but had to watch as Chamberlain fingertipped it away.

It was over an hour and 20 minutes before the keeper was tested again. This time Patterson, the Blades' captain and most impressive performer, stuck out a leg at an injury-time throw-in, forcing a sharp reflex response from Chamberlain low to his left.

The ball was not yet dead, although it was soon to be so having fallen to David White. Predictably he hit the side netting from six yards. It was the last kick of the game.

Victory then would have severely flattered Sheffield and would have been fairly harsh on Sunderland. If anything the visitors deserved to nick the points as they had produced the move of the match minutes earlier. Central to this was Michael Bridges, the 17-year-old substitute, already looking the

part after a handful of appearances. Having beaten the offside trap, Bridges ran cleverly on to Bracewell's pass. He passed in the area and fed the ball into the path of Michael Gray, who had hurried to the edge of the six-yard box. Unfortunately Gray shot high into the heart of the 5,000 travelling fans.

And that was that. Both managers, though not thrilled, seemed content with a point. Peter Reid knows four more will ensure promotion and Howard Kendall is already enthused about next season. The capture of Ian Rush would lend credence to such optimism, as would that of another Welshman present on Saturday, Neville Southall. Sheffield United, West Ham, Coventry, York, Walsley, Mansfield, Barnsley, Millwall, Scunthorpe, Luton, Blackpool, Rotherham, Burnley, Gillingham, Bournemouth, Reading, Middlesbrough, Ipswich, Norwich, Charlton, and Notts County were also present.

Referee: J. Brindwood (Leicester).

Weekend results

Soccer

FA CUP

Chelsea 4, Leeds 1	Coventry 1, QPR 0
Man City 1, Sheffield Wed 0	Middlesbrough 1, Wimbledon 0
Millwall 1, Bolton 1	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0

English League

First Division

Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0

Bell's Scottish League

Premier Division

Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0

Rugby League

Super League

Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0

Tennis

Wimbledon

Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0

American Football

NFL

Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0

Cycling

Paris-Roubaix

Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0

Sport in brief

Tennis

Pete Sampras regained the world No. 1 ranking yesterday after a hard-fought 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 victory over his fellow American, the defending champion Michael Chang, in the final of the Hong Kong Open.

Sampras had trailed the Australian Thomas Muster at the start of the week. Later in the day Muster gained consolation for losing the top spot when he won the Estoril Open for the second successive year with a 7-6, 6-4 win over the Italian Andrea Gaudenzi.

Cricket

The World Cup holders Sri Lanka confirmed their status as one-day experts with a comfortable 35-run victory over West Indies in Trinidad. Sri Lanka's first innings was a comfortable 100 runs after aggressive innings by Asanka Gurusinha (58) and Sanath Jayasuriya (46) had helped the tourists to a challenging 251 in 48.3 overs.

Sailing

Ben Ainslie leads the BP Laser World Championship in Simon's Town, South Africa, after six races, writes Bob Fisher. He clawed back the win from yesterday's loss after being 10th at the first mark and led his old British rival Iain Percy across the line.

In the 15- to 20-knot offshore winds, which shifted dramatically at times, Hannah Pepper of New Zealand then beat Ainslie into second place.

Rugby Union

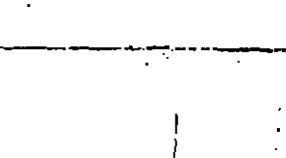
The defending champions Fiji thrashed New Zealand 51-5 yesterday, scoring 11 tries to win the Japan Sevens in Tokyo.

Chess

Gata Kamsky, the United States No. 1 who has controversially agreed to play a world title match in Baghdad, is in penultimate place after four rounds of the Monaco grandmasters tournament, writes Leonard Barmat. European chess federations will meet shortly to consider numerous protests against the decision to play in Iraq.

Fixtures

Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0
Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0	Sheff Wed 1, Bolton 0



St Helens keep their record intact, page 12
Manchester United's costly stumble, page 14

Hastings and the Claymores inch home, page 13

Sports Guardian

Keegan renews title hopes

THIS WAS the explosion of joy on the Newcastle bench, right, as Les Ferdinand's 25th goal of the season gave Kevin Keegan's team a 1-0 victory over Aston Villa at St James' Park yesterday and cut Manchester United's lead to three points in the championship race.



Photograph by Michael Steele

Match report, page 14

GOLF: US MASTERS

Norman's dreams of green

David Davies at Augusta

COLIN Montgomerie, with the US Masters title well out of his sights, had only one thing left to fight for in yesterday's final round here at the Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia.

the 3rd hit a nine-iron to two feet to move under par. He nearly dropped that shot at the 4th where he had to manufacture a wonderful chip from through the green and then holed from 10 feet.

Montgomerie was also the owner of the most remarkable statistic of the week in that by the time he reached the turn yesterday, in a one-under-par 35, he had hit every fairway for the duration of the tournament, and yet was still four over par.

Greg Norman and Nick Faldo, playing together yesterday for the second day in succession, have a rivalry that dates back to the late Seventies but which has peaked in the Nineties.

In 1977 they played together

in the Open at Turnberry, the one in which Tom Watson and Jack Nicklaus had their private battle, with Watson winning by one and being 10 shots ahead of the third-placed player.

Norman was, at that time, learning his trade on the European tour and it was his first major championship. It was only Faldo's second but both, of course, have gone on to great achievements.

The two men, who could hardly be more different in their approach to both life and golf, nevertheless enjoy playing with each other for one simple reason.

According to Norman: "The top players love playing with the other top players. It's no different for Norman and

Faldo than it was for Palmer and Nicklaus.

"We've had a wonderful rivalry over the years and we enjoy each other's company and each other's ability to play the game. We hope there's plenty more to come."

Norman, of course, was speaking as a man who had just established a six-stroke lead over his rival and was in generous and expansive mood. Faldo, on the other hand, would have been less than human had he not been dismayed by some of the Australian's "ability to play the game". At the short 12th, for instance, when Faldo was only four shots behind, he must have thought — although he did not admit it afterwards — that he had a

chance of reducing his deficit to only two. Norman had found the water with his tee shot and, given the difficulty of the pitch from the drop area, he would have known that a five was more likely than a four.

But in order to ensure that he was not in the water, Faldo hit his seven-iron just a touch too hard, it went through the green and finished up on a downhill lie in a swale at the back. Norman, with a magnificent pitch to 12 feet, then got his four and Faldo, with a less than magnificent pitch, missed from 11 feet and the two men walked off the green with the status quo unaltered.

Moments like that can win and lose championships. Norman was asked later if there had been an element of luck in his escaping with only a bogey. "I don't think so," he said. "Luck is when you get a bounce off a tree and come back down on the fairway. What happened at the 12th was the way of the game."

"I made sure that I hit my third shot from 81 yards because I've probably hit 50,000 balls from 81 yards and I know how to hit 81-yard shots. That's the type of shot where you know you want to be a certain distance to put a lot of spin on the ball. That green is very, very firm, so I needed the spin on it. That's the reason I put it that distance because it was a good three-quarter sand-wedge shot."



Norman... intense rivalry

By the end of the round that shot had helped establish a six-stroke lead, the biggest at this stage since Severiano Ballesteros was seven strokes ahead in 1980. On that occasion Ballesteros went on to lead by 10 with nine holes to play, by only two with five to play and eventually won by four.

Norman will not mind how many he wins by provided that he gets that precious green coat. And Norman would be as aware as anyone of his record in major championship when he has led at this stage. There have been six such occasions and only once, at Turnberry in 1996 in the Open, did he win. Four times he has finished second and once 12th.

The biggest prize: a front-row seat

Helen Smyth on the race for a place at the 18th green

IT IS one of the most prized positions in sport. Row one at the 18th green at Augusta National is the only place to be on the Sunday of the Masters. Once bagged, a spot is yours for the day, no one will kick your unattended chair aside or move it to the back, your prime position is as sacrosanct as the Eisenhower tree, a protected species.

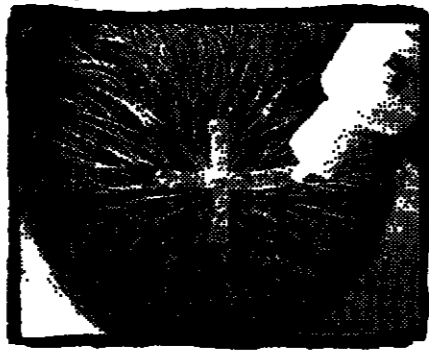
The only problem is bagging the spot. Once you could saunter through the gates at almost any old time and take your pick on the hill. Now there is the Sunday surge. Long-limbed athletes, in training all year for this moment, sprint up the hill to plant their seats. Strictly speaking patrons (Masters-speak for spectators) are not allowed to run but some have perfected a curious, half-limping gait propelling them at a Lindbergh rate.

Jean Emhart and Dee Kiefer, however, have an even more refined technique, enabling them to arrive at their front-row seats with no sweat. Their husbands did the legwork, hur-

ting up the hill as soon as the gates opened at about 8am, a full seven hours before any action at all on the 18th hole and roughly 10 hours before any sign of Greg Norman and Nick Faldo, the last pair.

The Emharts, from Clayton, Georgia, and the Kiefers, from Bremen, Indiana ("We're both small-town girls"), were positioned on the right-hand side of the green, just above the bunker, with a perfect view of the pin. "You can also see what's happening on the 15th green from here," Dee Kiefer pointed out, a touch optimistically given the trees in the way, although binoculars are not banned here — unlike cameras, cell-phones, radios, loud beepers and coolers.

The women were set for the day — their husbands would do a little roving — and would keep abreast of matters by watching the 18th green leaderboard in between socialising and slapping on the sunblock. Watching the world go by, reading, doing the crossword and sleeping were other activities. "It's like an extended family here," said Jean Emhart, who was attending her 26th Masters. "It's just the best place to be. I like to see the last putt holed."



To many this concept would sound melodramatic. Not to us. Only dandruff sufferers know what a heavy cross this condition is to bear. An itchy, itchy scalp will not only cause physical distress, it can undermine your confidence, too. Our research taught us that dandruff is caused by a microbe. A medical condition demanding a reliable medical solution — First Aid.

First Aid for your dandruff.

Our solution, the Nizoral Dandruff Shampoo formula, proved so successful that it's been tried and trusted by doctors and dermatologists for years. Our shampoo cares for your hair differently. The breakthrough came when we identified and patented an ingredient that would specifically target and prevent the microbe that is the root cause of dandruff.



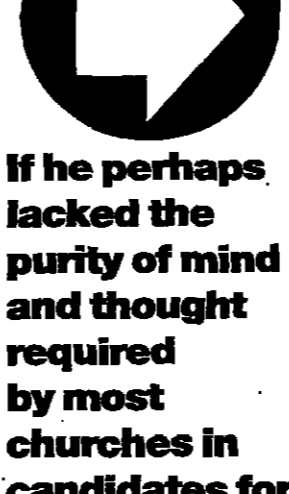
NIZORAL DANDRUFF SHAMPOO. FIRST AID FOR DANDRUFF.

Nizoral Dandruff Shampoo works differently. As the microbe is prevented from returning, so too, are the itching and flaking symptoms. Unlike some harsher anti-dandruff treatments, our Nizoral Dandruff Shampoo is actually nice to use as well, being gentle and perfume free. So all you'll be aware of is how clean and healthy your hair feels.

Nizoral Dandruff Shampoo is effective, and after an initial period of using it twice weekly, you should only need to use it once a week to keep dandruff away. In between, you can wash your hair with whatever shampoo you like. You can buy a bottle from your pharmacist without prescription. To obtain your free information leaflet, call (099) 134 218.

Guardian Crossword No 20,627

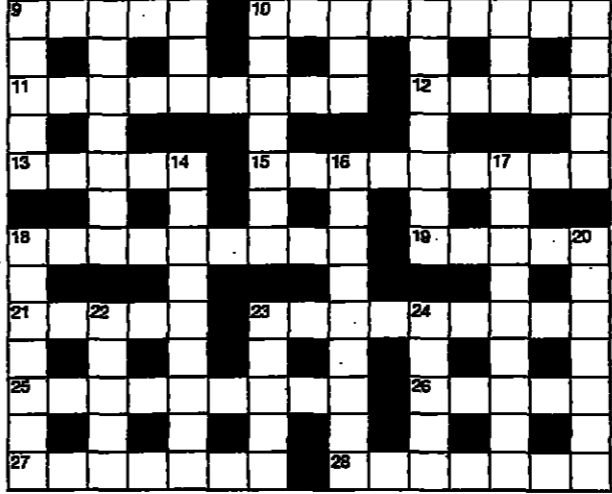
Set by Crispa



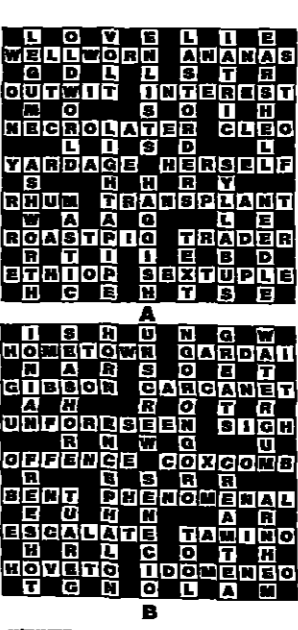
Across
1 Giving senior NCO everything with little hesitation — not major though (7)
5 A note about 5 drs, written badly but with a will (7)
9 Players all (5)
10 Stink around or a pupil will make music of a sort (5)
11 Bluster and rage on car breaking down (9)
12 A woman editor with aspiration should admit it (5)
13 A boat backing water (5)
15 Nash kept spinners busy! (9)
18 Perfectly happy just to read when camping (5)
19 Poke around for all to see in vain (5)
21 A step to be effected without delay (5)
23 Coloured, being much attached to an old house (9)
25 His plight could well be a warning to people in the main (9)
26 A dunderhead with German following will get let in (5)

Guardian Crossword No 20,627

Set by Crispa



Across
1 Giving senior NCO everything with little hesitation — not major though (7)
5 A note about 5 drs, written badly but with a will (7)
9 Players all (5)
10 Stink around or a pupil will make music of a sort (5)
11 Bluster and rage on car breaking down (9)
12 A woman editor with aspiration should admit it (5)
13 A boat backing water (5)
15 Nash kept spinners busy! (9)
18 Perfectly happy just to read when camping (5)
19 Poke around for all to see in vain (5)
21 A step to be effected without delay (5)
23 Coloured, being much attached to an old house (9)
25 His plight could well be a warning to people in the main (9)
26 A dunderhead with German following will get let in (5)



Down
1 Governors formerly appearing a bit retrogressive on board (7)
2 Using no net for a time (9)
3 Telling stories in gratitude — only in gratitude (5)
4 Conscience-stricken, having cribbed article in the break (9)
5 Discrimination that makes sense (5)
6 A fleshy-leaved plant producing weighty harvest (5)
7 A means of transport, one for little mites (5)
8 The Orient — certainly torrid as far as anybody can see (7)
14 The page didn't like being put on show (9)
16 Incorrectly parked in outside car-park, which is criminal (9)
17 Dresses a guy — he's there to ensure the knot's properly tied (9)
18 Rachel's novel "The Prince" (7)

WINNERS OF PRIZE PUZZLE 20,619

This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are Mr P. J. Bevan of Longjumeau, Gloucester, P. J. Shepherd of Exeter, Devon, W. H. Taylor of Stevington, Bedfordshire, Marjorie Rolfe of Westford, Hertfordshire, David Harding of Harwell, London, Mr. Lincoln Barton of Bury, Lancashire, Rosalind Stansfield of Edinburgh, J. P. Heley of Farnby, Merseyside, Richard Hunt of Carlisle, Cumbria, and Martin Cooper of Newport, Isle of Wight, Hampshire.

20 Meant not to be seen in action (7)
22 A gale banged up seaweeds (5)
23 To put up with the girl is the only alternative (5)
24 Hold on, like coppers behind an old monarch (5)
Solution tomorrow

CE 123

صكنا من الامل